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ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND

CORRESPONDENCE

OF

GOVERNOR HORATIO SHARPE

VOL. I.

1753–1757

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE, UNDER THE DIRECTION
OF THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WILLIAM HAND BROWNE
Editor

BALTIMORE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1888

PRESS OF ISAAC FRIEDENWALD,

BALTIMORE, MD.

ROOMS OF THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

BALTIMORE, *December* 1, 1888.

To the Maryland Historical Society:

GENTLEMEN:

The Committee on the State Archives beg leave to submit the first volume of the correspondence of His Excellency Horatio Sharpe, being the sixth volume of the Archives, and covering the period from his arrival in the Province in 1753 to the year 1757.

The letters of Governor Sharpe, as contained in his Letter Books, the replies to these letters, belonging to the State, and the many important letters from Frederick, Lord Baltimore, and his uncle and secretary, Cæcilius Calvert, found among the recently acquired Calvert Papers, have been made use of for this volume.

In view of the large number of letters still missing from the collection, it has been thought desirable to add a preliminary and partial list of these, in the hope that they may yet be recovered to the State.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. M. LEE,
HENRY STOCKBRIDGE,
BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Committee.

PREFACE.

In the correspondence of Governor Sharpe, the earlier portion of which is now for the first time published, we have one of the most precious sources of information concerning a momentous period in our colonial history, the final struggle between England and France for the possession of North America.

About the year 1745, the Marquis de la Galissonière, Governor-General of Canada, foreseeing the approach of the inevitable contest, began to take steps toward realising the gigantic scheme of linking together all the territories that the French possessed or claimed in North America, by a chain of fortified posts, extending, by the way of the St. Lawrence, the lakes, the Ohio and the Mississippi, from the Bay of Fundy to the Gulf of Mexico. His successor, the Marquis Du Quesne de Menneville, in pursuance of this strategy, after connecting Montreal with the Rivière aux Bœufs (now French Creek) in Pennsylvania, by a cordon of small forts, in 1754 made preparations for further advances on such a scale as seriously to alarm the colonial and home governments, which determined to take active measures in resistance.

Horatio Sharpe, who succeeded Ogle as Governor of Maryland in 1753, was a man of both military and colonial experience, having seen service in the West Indies. His appointment was probably due in part to family influence, as his brother John had been one of the guardians of the young Proprietary, Frederick, sixth and last Lord Baltimore; and partly to the obvious expediency of placing a military man at the head of a province so near the French advance, and already threatened by them, as they laid claim to all the lands watered by affluents of the Ohio.

On his arrival, Sharpe proceeded to place himself in communication with the governors of the other colonies, and soon became a sort of centre for all the military operations in the south. Actual hostilities began in April 1754 by the capture of a small English fort at the junction of the Alleghany and Monongahela rivers, by Contrecœur, the French commander at Rivière aux Bœufs, who at once proceeded to convert it into a formidable fortification, which he called Fort Du Quesne. Col. Joshua Fry had been sent by Gov. Dinwiddie of Virginia to garrison the English post, with about 300 militia and Col. George Washington as his second in command; but before he reached the spot, the fort had been surrendered. When Washington, who was on the march, learned this news, he advanced cautiously, making a road as he went; and while thus employed he fell in with a party of French

commanded by Coulon de Jumonville, and a skirmish ensued in which De Jumonville was killed, and the rest of his party either slain or made prisoners. Shortly after, Col. Fry was killed by a fall from his horse, and Washington succeeded to the chief command.

When the news of De Jumonville's disaster reached the French at Fort Du Quesne, his brother, Commandant De Villiers, was sent by Contrecœur with a force of 600 men to attack the English, who fell back to a place called the Great Meadows, on a branch of the Youghiogeny, and there threw up hasty defences. These, however, they were unable to hold; and on the 3d of July Washington and his force surrendered. The French had maintained that De Jumonville had been sent to parley with the English, and that the death of that officer was an "assassination"; and this word Villiers inserted in the articles of capitulation, which Washington signed, thereby subjecting himself to severe censure. He pleaded that, as he did not understand French well, Captain Van Braam of his command had translated the articles to him by word of mouth, and had softened the ugly word "assassination" to "death."*

This mishap caused great alarm, especially in the southern Provinces, and the governors set about raising men and supplies. The home government also bestirred itself. Sharpe had already been raised to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and commissioned to take command of the operations against the French; and in October two regiments of foot commanded by Sir Peter Halkett and Col. Dunbar were ordered out to Virginia. Dinwiddie began the construction of a stockade fort on Wills' Creek, which he named Fort Cumberland, in honor of the victor of Culloden; and Sharpe exerted himself to raise and equip forces for effective operations in the spring. But the English government resolved to send out a general officer to take the command in the field; as it was rightly judged that Sharpe and the other governors would have their hands full in enlisting men, procuring supplies and means of transportation, and extorting funds from their respective legislatures. The officer selected was Edward Braddock, whose arrival, movements, and disastrous end, will be found chronicled in the following pages.

The difficulties with which Sharpe had to contend were many and great. As a commissioned officer under the crown, he had to strain every nerve to procure the requisite men and supplies; as the representative of the Proprietary, he was bound to guard against any encroachment of his rights; as the governor of the Province, it was his duty to shield the inhabitants from wrong and injustice. It is evident that he endeavored to execute his duty, amid these conflicting claims, with justice, prudence, and moderation.

The war and its concomitants were not the only difficulties with which Sharpe had to contend. The Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, not satisfied with having robbed Maryland of all the territory between the present

* A copy of the articles of capitulation was found in the Calvert Papers, and is printed on p. 78.

boundary and the 40th parallel, her charter-boundary, and of the territory which is now the State of Delaware; nor of extending, by means of a forged map on which Cape Henlopen was misplaced, their territory twenty-three miles further south than their agreement gave them, were trying to cut another cantle out of Maryland by taking advantage of the obscure terms in which the eastern boundary was made a tangent to a circle twelve miles from New Castle.

There was also a difficulty about the western boundary of the Province. The charter made this a due north-and-south line between the 40th parallel and the furthest source of the Potomac, and thence following the further, or western, bank of that river to the Chesapeake Bay. But for many years it was undetermined whether the north or the south branch of the Potomac was the longer, and therefore which was the true boundary of the Province.

In 1651 Charles II granted to the Earl of St. Albans, Lord Hopton and others, the land in Virginia lying between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers. This land, by marriage and descent, came into the possession of Thomas, 5th Baron Fairfax, who, assuming the northern branch to be his boundary, in 1733 empowered commissioners to settle his lines with parties representing the crown. Maryland had no voice in the matter. His son, Thomas, 6th Baron, came to America in 1745, and shortly after his arrival began granting lands to settlers.

But as settlements came to be pushed further to the west, and the topography of the mountain regions better understood, it was discovered that the south branch took its rise further from the mouth, and, consequently, that it, and not the north branch, was the boundary of Maryland.

Sharpe had been especially charged by the Proprietary to determine the boundaries of his Province; and almost immediately upon his arrival, he sent for Capt. Thomas Cresap, who lived near the lands in dispute, to learn his opinion of the matter. Cresap affirming that the south branch ran from 60 to 80 miles further west than the north, Sharpe wrote to Fairfax (p. 6) asking his concurrence in fixing the true boundary. Fairfax replied that it would be to his advantage if the south branch were decided to be the boundary (because it would carry his western line so much further to the west), but declined to move personally in the matter. Sharpe had the two branches surveyed and mapped by Cresap (p. 72); but the outbreak of hostilities with the French and Indians prevented any further action at this time.*

But Sharpe's chief troubles sprang from the attitude of the House of Burgesses. There had been a spirit of opposition to the Proprietary rule almost from the foundation of the colony; and in Governor Ogle's time it seems to have assumed serious proportions and given rise to a

* The report of the Virginia Boundary Commissioners (Richmond, 1872) is full of historical errors. For example, they say (p. 83) that [Cecilius] Lord Baltimore fled into Virginia in 1644; and (p. 88) that Lord Baltimore and Fairfax "fixed the boundary by the Fairfax Stone." It is notorious that Cecilius was never in Maryland, nor any Lord Baltimore after 1733. But we cannot be surprised at these and similar errors from writers who state (p. 89) that the Commonwealth Commissioners "restored it [Maryland] to the colony of Virginia."

political party. In particular, they attacked the tonnage and tobacco dues as illegal. The first of these was a port-duty of fourteen pence per ton on vessels trading to the port and owned by non-residents, which formed part of the revenues of the Proprietary; and the other, a duty of one shilling a hogshead on all tobacco exported, most of which was paid to the Governor as his salary. There were also disputes about licenses to public ordinaries, hawkers, and other minor matters.

When the necessities of the war forced Sharpe to apply to the burgesses for supplies, the opposition became stubborn. While they would not put themselves in the position of absolutely refusing, they saddled their grants with conditions which Sharpe was compelled to reject. Among others, they insisted that the Proprietary's manors and reserved lands, though unoccupied, should bear a portion of the tax; and here Sharpe, not without misgivings, had to yield somewhat, for it was soon seen that the want of defence stopped the sale of the western lands, thus losing Baltimore much more money than his share of the tax amounted to.

The French and Indian war gave occasion for a violent outbreak of hostility to the Roman Catholics. Many, in their blind bigotry, looked upon every member of that faith as a possible spy and traitor, and professed to stand in dread of them, though they were only one twelfth of the population. This fanatical spirit Sharpe endeavored to restrain, with a fairness that does him credit, though he could see no injustice in the double tax laid upon those of the Roman faith. This contest continued throughout nearly the whole of Sharpe's administration, sometimes with considerable bitterness. In addition to these causes of irritation, the evident indifference of the Proprietary to any interests but his own and those of a few personal favorites, completely estranged the affections of the people, and prepared them for the separation which was soon to follow. Among the various schemes for raising money in the colonies without the consent of their Legislatures, over which Sharpe, in his strait, was constantly brooding, was that of a stamp tax, which was afterwards adopted, with unforeseen results.

After the defeat on the Monongahela, Dunbar, who succeeded Braddock in command, instead of making a stand at Ft. Cumberland or some other defensible place, retreated with his whole force, and did not stop until he reached Philadelphia, where he went into quarters. The whole western frontier was now open, for the garrison at Ft. Cumberland was small and isolated, and there was every reason to fear that all Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna, and all Virginia and Maryland west of the Shenandoah and Potomac, would be abandoned by the inhabitants. Sharpe hastened to the frontier, and by establishing small posts with a system of ranging parties, somewhat quieted the alarm. The next year the Assembly granted supplies for the war; and part of these funds he applied to building Fort Frederick, on the North Mountain, near the Potomac, about 4 miles E. of Licking Creek. The Indians had learned from the French how to approach and burn the stockade forts, so Sharpe faced the bastions and curtains with stone. This fort was of inestimable service in protecting the western frontier.

Fortunately for Maryland and the adjoining provinces, the French, seeing that the brunt of war was going to be to the north and on the lakes, withdrew all their forces from Fort Du Quesne except a small garrison; so, though some barbarities were perpetrated by small scalping parties of Indians, no serious attack was made, The fall of Fort Du Quesne does not come within the scope of the present volume.

The materials for this volume have been obtained from Sharpe's MS. letter-books; a mass of correspondence with him preserved in the collections of the Maryland Historical Society; the Calvert Papers (among which the capitulation of Washington was found) and the Journals of the Assembly, in whose pages some letters are recorded that were not found elsewhere. Letters not in the Society's collections or the archives of the State, have not been printed. A number of letters from Sharpe to Dinwiddie, which are not in the letter-books, have been published in the Dinwiddie Papers (Richmond, 1883–84). Their dates are:

1754. Mch. 3, June 20, July 24, 31, Nov. 12, 13, 15.

1755. Jan. 7, 11, Feb. 4, Mch. 1, 10, 29, June 3, 10, 18, July 5, 29, Aug. 25, Sept. 20, Oct. 3, Nov. 22.

1756. Jan. 2, Mch. 8, 13, April 28, May 24, June 21, Sept. 2, 8, Nov. 12.

1757. April 5, May 18, June 1, 14, July 30, Aug. 3, 18, 26.

The following letters from Morris to Sharpe are printed in the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania:

1755. Jan. 12, May 30, July 3, Oct. 7.

1756. Jan. 5.

The following letters, referred to in the correspondence, are missing from our collections:

Letters from Sharpe:

1753. Aug. 1, 6, to Calvert; 15, Dinwiddie; 16, Hamilton; 22, 23, Calvert; Dec. 26, Dinwiddie.

1754. Jan. 11, Calvert; Feb. 10, Mch. 11, April 25, Aug. 20, Dinwiddie.

1755. Feb. 17, St. Clair; July 23, W. and J. Sharpe.

Letters to Sharpe:

1753. Aug. 29, from Calvert.

1754. Jan., Bury; July 5, Robinson; 6, Baltimore; 6, W. and J. Sharpe; 11, Albemarle; Sep. 18, Robinson; Nov., Halifax; 30, Fitch; Dec. 12, Calvert; 31, Robinson.

1755. Jan. 7, Morris; 23, Robinson; Feb. 15, Calvert; 25, Braddock; April 7, 16, Calvert; 24, Washington; May 29, June 2, Morris; 2, Dinwiddie; 17, 22, Braddock; 19, Robinson; 22, Orme; 22, Innes; July 3, Morris; 5, 31, Dinwiddie; Aug. 13, Shirley; 13, Innes; 20, Morris; 25, Didwiddie; Sep. 5, Hardy; 25, Shirley; Oct. 3, Dinwiddie.

Brief Biographical Notes of some of the Parties to the Correspondence.

Abercromby, James (1706–1781), Major-General. Commanded the British forces in America after the recall of Loudoun.

Albemarle, William, Earl of (1702–1754), was British Ambassador at the Court of Versailles.

Amherst, Jeffrey (1717–1797). He was sent out to America with the rank of Major-General, after the recall of Loudoun in 1758, and was successful in the operations in Canada and on the lakes. In 1763 he was made Governor of Virginia, and was raised to the peerage in 1776.

Anson, George (1697–1762), the celebrated navigator. Created Baron Anson, 1747. First lord of the Admiralty 1751–56, and 1757.

Belcher, Jonathan (1681–1757). Governor of Massachusetts, 1730–1741; of New Jersey, 1747–1757.

Blair, John (1689–1771). President of the Virginia Council, and acting Governor of Virginia in 1757–58.

Boscawen, Edward (1711-1761). Rear-Admiral, 1755; Vice-Admiral, 1756. In conjunction with Amherst, who commanded the land forces, he reduced Louisbourg and Cape Breton in 1758.

Bouquet, Henry (1719–1766). Lieut.-Col. in the British army in 1756. Brig.-General 1765. He co-operated with Forbes in the reduction of Fort Du Quesne.

Braddock, Edward (1695–1755). After more than forty years of uneventful service in England and on the Continent, he was made Major-General in 1754, and appointed to command the operations against the French in America, where he arrived Feb. 20, 1755. On his arrival he summoned a council of Governors, at which four expeditions were decided on: against Niagara, Crown Point, Louisbourg, and Fort Du Quesne. The last expedition Braddock commanded in person; and falling into an ambuscade of a small body of French and Indians, on July 9, 1755, when about 7 miles from the fort, his advance was routed with great slaughter, and he was himself mortally wounded.

Bradstreet, John (1711–1774). Adjutant-General to Gov. Shirley in 1755. Served against Ticonderoga and Crown Point 1758–59. Major-General 1772.

Calvert, Cecilius. Son of Benedict Leonard, fourth Lord Baltimore, and uncle of Frederick, to whom he held the place of Secretary for Maryland.

Calvert, Frederick, sixth and last Baron Baltimore. He was born in 1731, and succeeded his father, Charles, in 1751. In 1753 he married Lady Diana Egerton, youngest daughter of the Duke of Bridgewater, from whom he afterwards separated. He seems to have cared little or nothing for his Province, except as a source of revenue; and his

selfishness and indifference to the welfare of his people did much to render them hostile to the Proprietary government. He travelled on the Continent for some years, and produced two or three books of no value, which brought him a cut from the lash of Sterne, who satirises him as "Mundungus"—a name given to the poorest kind of tobacco. He died at Naples, September 14, 1771, without legitimate children. By his will he bequeathed the Province of Maryland to his illegitimate son, Henry Harford, a minor.

Cresap, Thomas. A native of Yorkshire, England, who settled in Western Maryland before 1742. He was skilled in woodcraft and Indian fighting, and took an active part in the border skirmishes between the Marylanders and Pennsylvanians. He was commissioned as captain of a militia company (riflemen) in 1754. He was also a skilful surveyor, and made the map of the sources of Potomac in the present volume (p. 72). Cresap is said to have lived to the age of 106.

De Lancey, James (1703–1760), Lieutenant-Governor of New York, 1753–1760.

Denny, W., Deputy-Governor of Pennsylvania, 1756–1759.

Dinwiddie, Robert (1693–1770). He was born in Scotland, and was for a time, it is believed, a merchant in Glasgow. Collector of Customs in Bermuda, 1727, and in 1738, Surveyor-General of Customs of the southern ports of America. In 1751 he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia. He memorialised the British Government on the subject of the military designs of the French in the Ohio valley, and sent Washington (then major of militia) to remonstrate with the invaders, and afterwards, with a small force, to protect the settlers. Dinwiddie was very active, though with more zeal than military capacity, in the operations connected with, and following, Braddock's expedition. He was recalled, at his own request, in 1758, and died in England in 1770.

Fairfax, Thomas, sixth Baron Fairfax (1691–1781). His father, by his marriage with Catherine, daughter and heiress of Lord Culpeper, had succeeded to the title to a tract of over 5,000,000 acres in Virginia between the Rappahannock and the Potomac rivers, which had been granted by Charles II. to Lord Hopton and others. He settled in Virginia in 1745.

Fauquier, Francis (1720–1768), succeeded Dinwiddie as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia in 1758.

Forbes, John (1710–1759). Brigadier-General in 1757, and Adjutant-General in the expedition against Louisbourg. In 1758 he commanded the expedition against Fort Du Quesne, which was abandoned by the French on November 24.

Fox, Henry (1705–1774). English Secretary at War 1746–1756, when he resigned the office to William Pitt. Created Baron Holland in 1763.

Haldimand, Sir Frederick (1718–1791). A native of Switzerland, entered the British army in 1754, came to America in 1757, and took part in the attack on Ticonderoga and the defence of Oswego.

Halifax, Lord. George Montague, second Earl of Halifax, was President of the Board of Trade.

Halkett, Sir Peter. Came to America in command of a British regiment in 1754, and was killed, with his son, at the battle of the Monongahela.

Hamilton, James (1710–1783), Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, 1748–1754.

Hanbury, John. A wealthy and influential London merchant.

Hardy, Sir Charles (1705–1780). Governor of Newfoundland in 1744, British Administrative Governor of New York in 1755–1757, and Rear-Admiral at the capture of Louisbourg in 1758.

Holdernesse, Lord. Robert d'Arcy, fourth Earl of Holdernesse, was Secretary of State 1751–1761. Died in 1778.

Innes, James. A native of Scotland, and a citizen of New Hanover, North Carolina. Was a captain in Gov. Gooch's unsuccessful expedition against Cartagena in 1740. He commanded the North Carolina contingent against the French in 1754, and the garrison of Fort Cumberland in 1755.

Lawrence, Charles, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia in 1754, and Governor in 1756. Brigadier-General in 1757, and took part in the siege of Louisbourg. Died in 1760.

Loudoun, John Campbell, Earl of (1705–1782). He was selected to command the forces in America after Braddock's defeat, and arrived in July, 1756. He proved a weak and incompetent commander, and made himself very unpopular by his embargo on commerce, and other vexatious acts, while undertaking nothing against the French. He was recalled in 1758.

Lyttelton, William Henry (1720–1808). Governor of South Carolina, 1755–60. Raised to the peerage as Lord Lyttelton in 1794.

Morris, Robert Hunter (1700–1764). Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, 1754–1756.

Orme, Robert. Lieutenant in the British army (though usually styled "Captain"). He was a favorite with Braddock, whom he accompanied to America. He was wounded at the battle of the Monongahela, but recovered, and has left an interesting journal of the expedition.

Pitt, William (1708–1778). Secretary of State, 1756–1761. Was raised to the peerage as Earl of Chatham in 1766.

Pownall, John. Secretary to Commissioners for Trade and Plantations.

Pownall, Thomas (1723–1805). Lieutenant-Governor of New Jersey, 1755; Governor of Massachusetts Bay in 1757–60, and of South Carolina, 1760–61.

Robinson, Sir Thomas. Member of the Board of Trade, 1748–49; Privy Councillor, 1750, and a Secretary of State, 1754–1755. Was raised to the peerage as Baron Grantham in 1761.

St. Clair, Sir John. Lieutenant-Colonel in the British army, and Deputy Quartermaster-General for the forces operating against the French. He arrived in America in 1755, and was shot through the body at the Monongahela, but recovered.

Sharpe, John, brother of Horatio. He was one of the guardians of Frederick, Lord Baltimore; held various public offices at different times, and was a member of Parliament for Collington. He died 1756.

Sharpe, William, another brother. He was keeper of the Council records in 1756.

Shirley, William (1693–1771). Governor of Massachusetts, 1741–1756, and Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in America after Braddock's death. His son was Braddock's secretary, and was killed at the Monongahela.

Stanwix, John. Colonel 60th regiment, Royal Americans, and commander of the Southern district in the operations against the French in 1756. Major-General 1759. Died 1765.

NOTES.

Page 7, line 3. "length" should be "south."

Page 7, line 34. "intirely that." "convinced" seems to be wanting.

Page 17, line 25. This letter, found among the Calvert Papers, seems to be an abbreviated draft kept by the writer.

Page 22, line 1. "48th degree" for "40th."

Page 53, line 33. The MS. vol. referred to is in the Calvert Papers.

Page 64, line 13. "Pilates" for "pilots."

Page 78, line 40. "Jamonville" for "Jumonville."

Page 78, line 41. "Du Gurne" for "Du Quesne."

Page 80, line 43. "sent open," etc. Inserted note of the scribe. It is explained by letter, p. 82.

Page 100, line 43. The Calvert referred to is not the Secretary, but a kinsman living in Maryland.

Page 117, line 40. "Royal Highness." The Duke of Cumberland.

Page 117, line 44. "character," *i. e.* handwriting.

Page 130, line 6. Cresap's Map. See p. 72.

Page 131, line 42. "Heirs." Probably "heads."

Page 146, line 4. Moncatoocha, also called Scarroyady, was an Oneida chief who succeeded the Half-King, Thanacharisson, in 1754. He was a faithful ally of the English, and accompanied Braddock's expedition, in which he lost a son.

Page 147, line 11. PSS. An unintelligible contraction.

Page 179, line 8. The murder referred to was committed by George Talbot upon Christopher Rousby in 1684. Talbot was carried to Virginia and condemned to death, but pleaded the King's pardon. This led later to complicated questions involving the title of lands formerly held by him: whether they were forfeited or not; whether a condemnation in a Virginia court for an offence committed by a Marylander in Maryland, was not illegal; and whether the King's pardon did not restore his estates, if legally forfeited.

Page 154, line 25. "Aruadacks." Probably "Arondacks."

Page 166, line 37. "Scarroyada." See note to p. 146.

Page 168, line 17. "calavances." A word unknown to the editor.

Page 173, line 4. "17/ p cent." Apparently 17 shillings per cwt., or about 2d per lb. on the hoof. The "fifth quarter" the editor cannot explain.

Page 180, line 15. "Sheveralty," *i. e.* shrievalty or sheriffalty.

Page 198, line 12. The interpolated figures were added by the original scribe.

Page 203, line 37. The minutes of this Council are printed in Colon. Rec. of Penna. vi. 365.

Page 205, line 25. This extract is all we have of this letter.

Page 212, line 2. "last" for "least."

Page 234, line 35. "Half-King" was the title given by the English to one of the Oneida chiefs. For Moncatoocha, the chief referred to, see note to p. 146.

Page 253, line 21. "Guust" should be "Gist's."

Page 253, line 29. "Shirley." Not the Governor, but his son, W. Shirley, Braddock's secretary.

Page 254, line 45. "mres," "matters."

Page 272, line 31. "vast" for "fast."

Page 274, line 18. "Governor Innes." That is, governor or commandant of the fort.

Page 297, line 18. "General Johnson." This was Colonel, afterwards the famous Sir William Johnson, the chief intermediary between the English and the Six Nations.

Page 305, line 35. "Mr. Ridout." Sharpe's secretary.

Page 320, line 11. MS. torn.

Page 328, line 34. "Charge" for "change."

Page 329, line 5. "Levell'd" for "levied."

Page 343, line 31. "Neutrals." The Acadians, or "neutral French," as they were called, deported from Nova Scotia in the fall and winter of 1755. In this violent proceeding families were separated and the members sent to far distant ports, as in the case here mentioned.

Page 391, line 43. "Cape Capon" for "Cacapon."

Page 426, line 45. "$£\frac{8\,0\,0}{6\,0\,0}$" *i. e.* from six to eight hundred pounds.

Page 515, line 28. "Janicata" for "Juniata."

Page 515, line 34. He seems to mean "the Pennsylvanians' ignorance of the art of war."

Page 527, line 2. "this place," *i. e.* Philadelphia.

Page 541, line 11. "vived" for "vied."

Page 541, line 23. "y^{rs} months," *sic.* Perhaps for "th^{s} month."

[Governor Horatio Sharpe to Caecilius Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 1

20th Augst 1753 transmitted by Capt Fannin.

Sr

I arrived here the 10th Instant & was sworn into my office the same Afternoon at which time I took occasion in a short speech to acquaint the Gentlemen of the Council, how well satisfied His Lordship had expressed himself with the Steadiness they had shewn in supporting his Rights & Priviledges, the Honour & Dignity of the Government; and that I had His Lordships commands to assure them of the due sense His Lordship had of their great Qualifications and Merit, & repeated the same to them again severally as they occasionally waited on me. His Lordship being so near a conclusive determination in regard to the Boundarys of Pensilvania I thought it my Duty to summon a general Council which I did the 15 Instt to consider of the 74 Article of my private Instructions. To wit, How far the Circle round Newcastle will affect the Head of Cheseapeak Bay; As the Pensilvanians will not permit any person to take observations thereof, tis impossible to say certainly, but it is hoped that it will not affect the River Heads. It is a Country abounding with Hills, therefore superficial measurement will be for his Lordships Advantage. That part of the Peninsula where a West line has been run from Cape Hinlopen (or for Distinction sake Cape Cornelius) is a flat Country therefore the way of Measuring that is no further material than that if you allow Horizontal measurement there Messrs Penns may give it as a reason for measuring above after the same manner. It is to be observed that the Temporary Line is drawn 15 Miles south of the most southern part of Philadelphia, which takes away from his Lordship much good Land; It would be a great Advantage & it is much to be wished you could continue the Line due North (after it has touched the Circle) to the 40° 00′ at least to 39 56.

A Line due West in that Latitude will run a little North of one of the Bendings of the river Potowmack, much depends thereon in respect to the Boundarys with Lord Fairfax for by what I have yet seen I doubt that Branch which runs about So West by the Allegany Mountains will be deemed the Foun-

Letter Bk. I. tain Head of Potowmack & is to be desired if you could obtain said Latitude of 39° 56′ & His Lordship will even then be a considerable looser according to his First grant nor will you
p. 2 then be within 15 Miles of Philadelphia altho' to the Northw^{d} of the Latitude thereof.

It is impossible to fix how far North would be a good Boundary for Maryland on Account of the uncertainty of the Draughts and impracticability of making observations and remarks necessary for that Advice. I can only say what you know that the more Northw^{d} the Better.

The Council came to this Resolution—namely That as so much will depend on a Northern Line drawn from the Midle or any other Point of an East and West Line across the Peninsula That the most Adviseable Step is to have a due North Line run from the Midle of the East & West Line already run from Fenwicks Island to Taylors Island by which this Board will be better enabled to consider what divisional Line may Affect the Heads or Navigable Waters of our Rivers or it's intersection with any East & West Line which may be intended for a Northern Boundary to this province and a Southern one to Philadelphia.

This scheme M^{r} Emery has already been endeavouring to execute by M^{r} Iennings order and has proceeded (beginning at the Midle of the said Line from Fenwicks Island) North to the Latitude of Bohemia River which River he says— His due North Line leaves a litle to the West as it does also the Navigable part of Sassafras. I sent for this Surveyor to hear what information He could give me and what was his opinion of the North Line if continued He says that he believes it will be West of the 12 miles circle but shall be able to say exactly in a Month if not obstructed by the Pensilvanians who I am informed threaten any one they can catch with any such design on their setlements with Imprisonments, which M^{r} Emery is under great apprehensions of, but returned Yesterday to prosecute his work according to the order of Council. What I have said above is all I have been able to learn of this Affair but could wish that no Articles be agreed on at least till M^{r} Jennings arrival who will be able to bring you the plan (which M^{r} Emery begun by his order) compleated. I have sent for M^{r} Cressop who lives near Lord Fairfaxes Territories that I may be well informed of the Boundarys on that side which I shall take the first opportunity of comunicating. As it is doubtfull whether M^{r} Emery could run a Line of such a length without considerable Variation from his meridian (having only a small pocket compass to direct him) You will think it proper to word any Articles so as to secure the said Rivers and make it an Article That if the said North Line happens to be a

Secant to the New Castle Circle, it be so confirmed but if it runs to the Westward of the Circle that then the Divisional Line be a Tangent. You have had a Map sent you by Mr Tasker with one Wilmers Name to it. The person has not delineated it by any observation of his own that I can find so that you will expect no accuracy in it; It is made by a scale of 69 Statute Miles to a Degree. Quere: Whether such a Division of a Degree does not favour Messrs Penns interpretation of the 2d and 5th Articles of the late Lords Agreemt Letter Bk. I. P. 3

There are two livings Vacant in Worcester County One of them Valued at 30,000lb weight of Tobacco, the other only at 17,000lb weight p Annum but will after the decease of Mr Adams receive an addition of about 13,000lb p Ann: I shall according to his Lordships Instructions induct Mr Harris to the last and if his Lordship pleases to signifie his pleasure remove him to the other for which no one has made application besides Mr Addams as an Exchange for his, And one Mr Dingle whom as yet I know nothing of—

[Gov. Hamilton to Sharpe.]

Sir

I have received the favour of your letter of the 16th instant, acquainting me with your appointment to the Government of Maryland, and of your safe arrival in that Province: upon which, I very heartily congratulate you, and wish you much ease and satisfaction, in your administration. Original.

As I am perswaded that a ffriendly correspondence between the Governors of the several British Plantations cannot fail of conducing to the general benefit of the whole, it gives me a sensible pleasure to find you on your first Arrival making so free, and candid a declaration upon that Head. You will please to be assured, my Disposition, with regard to this subject, is exactly conformable to yours, and that I shall take the greatest pleasure in giving you testimonies of it upon all occasions.

I am Sir
Your most obedient humble servant
Iames Hamilton

Philadelphia 27° August 1753.

[Lord Holdernesse to Sharpe.]

Whitehall August 28th 1753

Sir

His Majesty having received Information of the March, of a Considerable Number of Indians, not in Alliance with Original.

the King, supported by some regular European Troops, intending as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities, on Parts of his Majesties Dominions in America; I have the Kings Commands to send you this Intelligence, and to direct you to use your utmost Diligence, to learn, how far the same may be well grownded, and to put you upon your Guard, that you may, at all Events, be in a Condition to resist any hostile Attempts that may be made upon any Parts of his Majesties Dominions, within your Government and to direct you in the Kings Name, that, in Case the Subjects of any Foreign Province or State, should presume to make any Incroachment, [on] the Limits of his Majesties Dominions, or to erect Forts on his Majesties Lands, or commit any other Act of Hostility, you are immediately to represent the Injustice of such Proceeding and to require them forthwith to desist from any such unlawfull undertaking; But if, notwithstanding your Requisition, they should still persist, you are then to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, and to use your best Endeavours, to repel Force by Force; But as it is his Majesties Determination not to be the Aggressor, I have the Kings Comands, most strictly to enjoin you, not to make use of the armed Force, under your Direction excepting within the undoubted Limits of his Majesties Dominions. And whereas it may be greatly conducive to his Majesties Service, that all his Provinces in America, should be aiding and assisting each other, in Case of any Invasion, I have it particularly in Charge, from his Majesty to acquaint you, That it is his Royall Will and Pleasure, that you should keep up, an Exact Correspondence, with all his Majesties Governors on the Continent; and in Case you shall be informed by any of them, of any Hostile Attempts, you are immediately to Assemble the general Assembly, within your Government, and lay before them, the necessity of a mutual Assistance, and engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require. I have wrote by this Conveyance to all his Majesties Governors to the same Purpose

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Holdernesse

[Gov. Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Sept^{r} 3^{d} 1753.

S^{r}

Original. Y^{r} Fav^{o} of the 15th ult^{o} by the Post I rec^{d} last Night, & hope before this, you rec^{d} mine by our Friend M^{r} Jennings, & desire

to repeat my sincere Desire to keep up a constan Correspondce with you, & when any thing occurs relating to these Colonies, I shall keep you duely advis'd thereof. I am with great Truth.

Yr Excellency's
very hble Servt
Robt Dinwiddie

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 3

Sept: 14. 1753 transmitted by Mr Iennings.

Sir

Upon Mr Emery's return from running the North Line I called a Council the 12th Instant who came to the Resolution as inclosed. I have sent you also Mr Emory's Plen with his remarks & Observations He has lain down neither Sassafras Bohemia or Elk River but in his Remarks says the North Line will not touch the Heads of any Rivers, nor will the Circle round Newcastle as run by Mr Daker in 1732 affect the Head of the Bay or any of the Rivers as far as He is capable of judging & supposes that a due North Line will take in Warwick Town & be a Secant of the Circle & not a Tangent but opinions you see & a few I am affraid inaccurate Observations are the best guides we as yet have & I see no probability but of remaining still in the Dark unless the Penns will give free p. 4 liberty to execute what the Council have thought necessary to be performed comply with what is mentioned in the Report of the Council. Mr Iennings has taken some pains to make Himself Master of this Affair & as We will be able to give you more light into it then I as yet am able to do I must beg leave to refer you to Him. Mr Cressop gave it as his Opinion to the Council that the Temporary Line is to the Northwd of any Bendings of the River Potomack & that the South Branch runs 60 or 80 Miles farther West then the Spring Head of the Northern Branch upon wch representation of His by Advice of the Council I have wrote the following Lettr to Ld Fairfax. [See below.]

If you can obtain from Messrs Penns to go to the Latitude of p. 5 40° upon Susquehana in order to run a West Line thence for your Northern Boundary You may give up so much of the Eastern Side of that River as lies north of the Temporary Line in respect to this Mr Jennings can give more certain information to whom I should not have taken the liberty of referring had any one else here seemed equally capable of giving me information. He comes to England on leave of Absence intending should not that Climate agree with his Constitution to return again; on my acquainting Him (as instructed) with your farther expectations from Him if He continues his Office

Letter Bk. I. He answered that He hoped soon to have the pleasure of seeing you & was persuaded you should not disagree on Terms.

The Act for the more effectual punishment of Negroes & other Slaves taken notice of in the 68 Article of my private Instructions I find is expired I shall take especial care on its revival to have it more properly penned.—

(I am sorry I have reason to think myself obliged not to comply with my Lords instructions in respect to Mr Harris as soon as I could wish and as I mentioned in my last that I intended on account of his being charged with the forgery of a Bill during his residence in London which I am affraid He will not be able to vindicate Himself from)

Mr Tasker was desired to acquaint Me with the Affair & the
p. 6 Clergy when they presented their Address delivered with it a Remonstrance on his Account, I have given him leave if He can make sufficient Interest with either of the parishes to officiate in their Church during the vacancy & till his Ldp will be pleased to signify his farther pleasure concerning Him.

Council Minutes as mentioned to have been inclosed in the preceding Letter. 12 Septr

His Excell: having been pleased to signify to this Board his Ldp's pleasure that We should give our sense of what Terms might be reasonable for an agreement between Himself & the Proprietarys of Pensilvania in the Settlement of the respective Limits & Bounds of their two Provinces: And several plans & Observations being laid before Us We are of opinion that so much uncertainty appears at present as well with respect to the Heads of Rivers running into Chesepeak Bay as to the Circle of Newcastle & the Latitude of the most northern Bend of Potomack River, that We would not presume to advise any particular Boundary unless a due North Line could be run from the Middle of such an East & West Line as may be agreed on between the Proprietaries across the Peninsula as also a due West Radius run from the centre of the Circle of Newcastle & the Latitude of the most Northern Bend of Potomack be taken by Observation.

p. 4 [Sharpe to Lord Fairfax.]

My Lord

I have the honour of acquainting your Lordship with my appointment to this Government and at the same time expressing Sincere Satisfaction from the hopes of being instrumental in forwarding a mutual Benefit to your Lordship as well as the Lord Proprietary of this Province

Lord Baltimore was pleased to Charge me with an Enquiry into the True Meridian and Place of the Fountain head of Pa-

towmeck; The best Information I have been hitherto able to procure gives me Reason to believe there has been a mistake in fixing the Spring head to the North Branch since the Length with other Circumstances more properly denotes the Southern Branch commonly called Wappacomo to be the main & principal Course of that River. I am the more willing to be persuaded of the Truth of this Representation from the considerable Advantage that will accrue to your Lordship. That Branch I am Informed has never been thoroughly explored and traced to it's Source, but I flatter myself with having your Lordship's Concurrance for such an Examination into its Course Length Width and Depth as may bring this Matter to a nearer degree of Certainty and if that should appear to be the fountain head of Patowmeck River I shall not Question but your Lordship will be for taking such measures as may ascertain the mutual Limits of the two Proprietorships Agreeable to the Direction and True Intention of their Respective Charters. Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Frederick, Lord Baltimore.] p. 6

Sept 14: 1753

My Lord I take this opportunity of complying with the request of the Parochial Clergy by transmitting their Address to your Lordship & at the same time of expressing my own gratitude for your Lordships Favours & assuring your Lordship that I am too sensible of the honour conferred on me to be wanting in my Duty or Zeal in advancing by all possible means Your Lordships Honour & Interest. &c.

[Fairfax to Sharpe.] Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67. p. 16

Frederick Septem^{r} the 24th 1753.

Sir

Yours I received by M^{r} Young, by which I perceive Lord Baltimore designs to dispute with this Province which is the head Spring of Patowmeck the length or North Branch as Run out by the Commissioners between his Majesty and me in the year 1736.

I am intirely that the South would be much to my Advantage, and therefore think it improper for me to Appear therein, and that the Governor of Virginia and your Excellency should transact that Affair if his Lordship should obtain his demand, I must insist upon a new Line between his Majesty and me to the Southward. I heartily wish this Climate may be agreeable to your Excellency. I remain

S^{r}

Your humble Servant

Fairfax

To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe
Governor of Maryland.

Letter Bk. I. p. 7

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

2d of Octr 1753. transmitted by Capt. Chew.

Sir

I take this opportunity of Addressing you in Mr Ridouts favour who (should Mr Sterling's Commission be withdrawn & the Office not revert to Mr Calvert) desires if you are under no prior Engagement to be recommended to that Office. You know He is disqualified for holding any place under his Lordships Commission till after three years residence on that Account I am persuaded as well as on my Recommendation you will be ready to confer on Him such an Obligation. Mr Sterlings District includes Chester Bohemia Sassafras & Patapsco Rivers.

The Merchants will make interest I am told to seperate the last from the other three & get it added as heretofore to the Collectorship of Annapolis which will be much for the advantage of their Trade. The other three are so adjacent that one Person can attend Them all with great ease.—

I shall defer writing on any Business till I see the Disposition of the Assembly who will meet to Day. Upon looking more particularly into the Act for the more effectual punishment of Negroes &c I find it is not to expire till next Session, and I shall not at present be able to do any thing farther in regard to the Quit Rent than to reduce the Farmers to 15s ꝑ Ct for two years, in which time I shall be better able to put that Plan You honoured me with in execution, &c.

p. 8

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Octr the sixth transmitted by Mr Skinner.—

Sir: You have inclosed the Addresses of Both Houses of Assembly in answer to my speech to them at the opening of this Session. They take longer time to prepare an Address to his Ldp. which I shall transmit as soon as They deliver The usual Ceremonies have taken up so much of their time since they have met that They have not yet proceeded to any Business. I deferred the recommendation of any particular Laws in my first Speech from an opinion that a little experience of their Dispositions before I should propose any thing would give me greater probability of success. I have ready to lay before them a Bill penned by the Attorney Genl for amending the Act in regard to Princess Ann Town & He is prepareing another for the Amendment of the Act for the more effectual punishment of Negroes &c

I have ordered a State of the account & Disposal of what Money has been collected by the Act of three Pence ꝑ Hhd

for Arms & Ammunition which will enable Me the better to persuade the Lower House to reenact that Law this Session Letter Bk. I. p. 9

The Rev^d M^r Malcolm has made Application to Me for a removal to S^t Mary's Parish in Dorset County the Value of which exceeds 40000^lb of Tobacco p Ann: lately vacated by the decease of M^r Dill. M^r Malcolm has lived in this Town as Rector several years in good esteem, is now growing old & having a large family is very worthy his Ldp's favour.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Oct^r 11^th 1753—

S^r

The Bearer hereof M^r Geo. Gordon is an Inhabitant of y^r Province, he came here to pay me a Visit, & as he was a Stranger to y^r Excell^cy pray'd my Letter to introduce him to you. He formerly liv'd some years with me, & behav'd himself extreemly well, he afterwards enter'd into Trade in Maryland, & I find he has had some Misfortunes, but I hope his Character in Maryland is the same as I really think he deserves, so pray allow me by this to introduce him to you. Original.

I lately sent a Present to several Nations of Indians on the Ohio &c. The Comiss^r I appointed is return'd here, but as yet have not rec^d his report of anything of Consequence in it I shall in Time Comunicate to you.

Next May I have desir'd several of the Heads of the different Tribes or Nations of Indians, to meet me at Winchester; having a very handsom Present from his Majesty to give them, if y^r Excell^cy by that Time have anything to Negotiate with these People, I shall be glad if I can serve you; in the mean Time believe me to be with great regard & Sincerity

S^r

Y^r most Obed^t hble Serv^t

Rob^t Dinwiddie

To his Excell^cy Hor. Sharpe Esq^r

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Oct^r 23^d 1753

S^r

Two Days ago arriv'd here a Man of War Sloop from Eng^d with sundry Dispatches for me; & Letters to all His Majesty's Gov^rs on this Continent w^th orders to dispatch the different Letters imediately to them; I therefore send this Express as far as New York accordingly; & he has my orders on his return to call on you for a Letter to acknowledge the receipt of the within from the Sec^ry of State. As the Man of Original.

War has Orders to wait for my Dispatches, I think he will not sail, till the return of the Express, that if you incline to write to England, I shall take due Care to forward them, & I am with very great respect

Y^r^ Excell^y's^
Most Obed^t^ hble Serv^t^
Rob^t^ Dinwiddie.

Gov^r^ Sharpe.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Virg^a^ Nov^r^ 24^th^ 1753—

S^r^

Original. Having an Express with some Letters from Gov^r^ Hamilton of Pensylvania, I cou'd not let him return without paying my Compliments to You, & to desire you'll excuse my not not answering your last Letter, which was occasion'd by great Hurry in our Assembly's meeting. I receiv'd a Letter from the Earl of Holderness which occasion'd my sending a Person of distinction to the Comander of the French Forces on the Ohio River; I desir'd to know his reasons for his Invading His Majesty of Great Britain's Dominions while a solid Peace subsisted between us & France, & by what Authority he acted in so unwarrantable Manner; & I desir'd he wou'd desist & retire; Otherways I must follow the Orders & Directions of the King my Master, by oblidging him by Force.—The Messenger has been gone three Weeks when he returns, I shall acquaint you of his reception & the Answer to my Letter; In case of his refusal, which I expect will be, I shall depend on the Assistance of the neighbouring Colonies to defeat their Designs.

Next May I have desir'd a Meeting of the Northern & Southern Indians, in the British Interest, at Winchester; when I shall endeavour to make up some small Breaches subsisting between them & endeavour to make Peace among themselves; afterwards endeavour to have a firm Alliance concluded between the several different Nations of Indians, with the Crown of Great Britain, & the Subjects settled on this Continent.

I shall be very proud of your Advice & Assistance in an Affair that I think, will be of great Service to Britain, to the Trade of these Colonies, & strengthening Our Western Frontiers. I presume the Letter I sent you by the Express was from the Secretary of State, for a mutual Supply, I shall be glad to know the Inclination of your People on this Occasion.

I have laid His Majesty's Orders before our House of Burgesses, but I fear they will not grant what I desire, unless the Messenger I sent to the French returns before the House

adjourns. The Messenger I sent to New York is not yet return'd which surprizes me.

Tho' I am much hurried yet I cou'd not shun writing you, & to assure you I am with great Sincerity & in great Truth—

Y^r^ Excellency's
Most Obed^t^ hble Serv^t^
Rob^t^ Dinwiddie

Gov^r^ Sharpe

[Gov. Shirley to Sharpe.]

Boston November 26. 1753.

Sir

I received by the last Post a Letter from the Earl of Holder- Original.
ness, dated 28th of August past (a Circular one, as it appears to be, to all his Majesty's Governments in North America) acquainting me that his Majesty had receiv'd Information of the march of a considerable number of Indians, not in Alliance with him, supported by some regular European Troops, intending, as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities on Parts of his Majesty's Dominions in America, and directing me to use my utmost Diligence to learn how far the same may be well grounded: Acquainting me also that his Lordship had it particularly in Charge to let me know that it was His Majesty's Royal Will & Pleasure, that I should keep up an exact Correspondence with all his Majesty's Governours on the Continent; and in Case I should be informed by any of them of any hostile Attempts, that I should immediately assemble the General Assembly within my Government, and lay before them the Necessity of a mutual Assistance and engage them to grant such Supplies, as the Exigency of Affairs may require.

In Obedience to these Instructions, I trouble you with this Letter, to let you know that in Case any hostile Attempts shall be committed upon his Majesty's Territories within the Limits of your Honour's Government, for repelling of which that may stand in need of the Assistance of his Majesty's other Colonies upon the Continent, I shall be ready upon my being informed of it by your Honour, to do my Duty within my own Governm^t^ for procuring their due Proportion of Supplies upon the Emergency: And for this Purpose I shall be very glad to maintain a strict Correspondence with your Honour pursuant to his Maj^ty's^ Commands signified to me in the Earl of Holdernesses before mentioned Letter.

I am with great Esteem
Sir,
Your Honour's most Humble
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley.

Letter Bk. I. p. 9

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Novem^{r} 29th transmitted by Capt: Alex: Piddie in the Francis.

Sir:

Inclosed I have sent the Addresses of the Upper & Lower Houses of Assembly together with a Representation of the Latter w^{ch} They delivered at the Conclusion of the Session on the 17th Inst: when among other Laws (which I shall be careful to transmit with the Proceedings of the House by the first opportunity after they can be prepared) were enacted the two supplementary Acts specified in my Instructions concerning Negroes & Princess Ann Town & the Law for Inspection of Tobacco but with some few Alterations which the Upper
p. 10 House rather than reject it entirely thought proper to admit The Temper & Moderation which the Burgesses seemed to shew gave Me great hopes of seeing Them pass the Journal which has long afforded occasion for Disputes but am sorry to inform you that at length They determined not to recede from the Conditions with regard to the Council's Allowance which had been insisted on by preceeding Assemblies.

The Revival of the Law for Arms & Ammunition I did my utmost to promote but neither my Exhortations nor the Secretary of State's Letter requiring them to join in the Defence of the neighbouring Colonies against any hostile Attempts of the French or Indians could induce them to think such a timely provision reasonable & necessary a Copy of the Secretary's Letter with my Message on the receipt of it to the Assembly & their Address in answer to it I have taken this opportunity to transmit as His Ldp might think proper to acquaint the Earl Holdernesse of the due obedience which has been paid his Commands. The Journal of Accounts being not agreed on by both Houses I had no opportunity of continuing M^{r}
p. 11 Bladens Demand on the Publick which I am afraid tho' the justness of it is not questioned will never be favourably heard & could wish He had not contrary to advice built so much on the publick Credit That Claim I doubt is not the least thing that deters the Assembly from compleating the Gov^{rs} House which I should have recommended, but it was thought a Bill for that purpose proposed by some of their own Members next Session would promise greater probability of Success: the House at present is in a ruinous condition; The Timbers within & Roof being perished for want of a covering. My Compliance at present with the 83^{d} Article of private Instructions by giving orders to the Agent for the receipt of the Money arising from Ordinary Licences is rendered impossible by a Law passed in June 1746 Entitled an Act for issuing & taking out of the Office of the Commissioners or Trustees appointed for emit-

ting Bills of Credit &c which appropriates the Money arising Letter Bk. I.
thence to the payment of the Debt contracted by the preparations for the Canada Expedition w^ch^ Debt is not yet discharged
With the Petition of the Naval Officers in which is set forth p. 12
the impossibility of conforming strictly to the Instruction that forbids the Execution of that Office by Deputy I have inclosed Col^o^ Lloyd's Bond. An Indisposition which He has laboured under these six Weeks has interrupted our Consultations concerning His Ldp's Quit Rents, which shall be the Object of our Care as soon as his Health will permit Him to venture from home. We have as yet only agreed with the Farmers for 15 ℔ C^t^ for collecting Our farther Conclusion on That Article as well as the resolution of the Council on Kittsmillers Affair I hope to send by the next opportunity.—During the sitting of the Assembly one M^r^ Craddock thought proper in a Sermon addressed to the Legislature to enlarge on the scandelous Lives of many of his Brethren & seemed to recommend the Establishment of some superior Authority which might take Cognizance of such Persons. The Tuesday follow^g^ the Clergy Eleven in Number delivered Me a Remonstrance which I have transmitted & immediately five of them Mess^rs^ p. 13
Chace, Dean Cradock, M^c^Guill & Brogden to shew the great expectations they had from Me returned a Copy of the same to the Committee of Aggrevances who thought that sufficient grounds for bringing in a furious Bill against Roman Catholicks which the House thought proper to reject. M^r^ Tasker informs me there were no Papers of M^r^ Ogles in the Executors hands relative to his Ldp or his affairs but such as were entered in the Council Records.

I have given Orders for surveying the several Manours, & submit to his Ldp's consideration the Surveying some of the Counties the Expence of which would be near 80£ Currency each, & it is apprehended that Baltimore, Cæcil, & Prince George Counties in particular contain near one third more Land than at present is pay'd for—The Proposals heretofore made to the Discoverers of Escheat Lands has induced one Demster apprehending His Land to fall under that Denomination to commence a suit with the Occupiers for a Tract of Land in Cæcil County called Savile containing 1513 Acres but by reason of some Error in his Declaration was nonsuited & p. 14
is too much reduced by that means to concern Himself farther on his own account. if His Ldp pleases to engage in the affair I beleive the Land might be recovered as the Grant to Philip Calvert Esq: 1659. was prior to any other but He not making any Improvements or settling People on it, other persons taking out Patents for Land ran their Surveys on that Tract & their Improvements to this time have devolved to their Heirs

Letter Bk. I. if the present Possessors are ejected they must be supplied with an equal number of Acres in some other part of the Province, & it wou[d] cause great uneasiness among those Tenants & not contiguous to manour Lands, I leave to your Determination whether it will be proper to drop the Affair or prosecute farther His Ldp's Pretentions—You will find in the pacquet some Charges on his Ldp for services which were done before my Arrival but I do'nt choose to order the Agent to answer the Bills before you acknowledge Allowance of them & signifie his Ldp's pleasure to have them discharged. I have received an Answer from Ld Fairfax to the Letter of which I sent you a Copy He wishes the undertaking success
p. 15 & gives his free consent to any persons coming on the northern Neck to make such Discoveries but does not choose to engage in the affair Himself.

My intent to examine the two Branches of Potowmack I have hinted to the Gov[r] of Virginia & writ to Col[o] Cressop to know whether He will undertake that Business or not, & return me an accurate Description of their Courses, Rapidity & Depth & the longitudinal Difference of the places of the Spring Heads, but I suppose the severity of the Winter will hinder Him from proceeding on those Enquiries this three or four Months at least.

Among the Papers you will find an Abstract from a short Treatise concerning the Boundaries of this Province which is not yet finished but has been submitted to my perusal by one M[r] Evans from Philadelphia, whether there be any Merit in proving the propositions proposed in the Abridgment I leave to your Determination but that He might procure some papers at New York & elsewhere which He is persuaded will strengthen his reasoning & assertions I have advanced Him £30 Currency & given Him hopes on his success & settling in this Province to expect farther encouragement if his Scheme
p. 16 be approved of by his Ldp. There appears to me in his Treatise one Article worthy observation which He has not taken notice of in the Abridgment viz that to the time that tract of Land was enfeoffed to M[r] Penn the Duke of York had held the three lower Counties as an Appendix or appurtenance but was afterwards willing for better security to obtain a Grant of them from the Crown. This grant is dated the 22[d] of March in the 35[th] of Charles the 2[d] & the year 1682–3 Seven months after he had granted them to M[r] Penn, the settling this Date of that grant is warranted from the Copy of it in the Hands of the Assembly in 1707 which M[r] Norris in the Preface to the new Edition of the Pensilvania Votes says is not now among their Records, 'twas of the private Collection of the then Speaker David Lloyd & is now in the hands of Joseph

Parker Esq. of Chester in Pensilvania, there is reason to suppose great privacy was used in the obtaining & passing it for We find that 1683. 84 & 85 by several Committees of Council held to examine the Contests of Mess^rs^ Penn & Ld Baltimore about their Lines the Deleware Counties were considered as yet ungranted by the King. Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] p. 17

Transmitted by Capt: Piddie dated Decem^r^ 10: 1753.

Sir:

Since my Letter of the 29^th^ was sent on board I have received information of the Decease of the Rev^d^ M^r^ Cox & M^r^ Thornton in Queen Ann County, as M^r^ Cox's Parish is to be divided there are now vacant 4 Livings 2 of them about 30000^lb^ of Tobacco p An. the other 2 much less considerable besides M^r^ Harriss & Dingly mentioned in a former Letter there is only one Clergiman unprovided for in the Province M^r^ M^c^farson: but one M^r^ Hotchkiss who some time since brought with Him to the Continent earnest Lett^rs^ of Recommendation to M^r^ Ogle whose Death the Gent^n^ being acquainted with at his arrival in Virginia has since resided in a Parish of that Province to which He was presented by the Gov^r^ but I apprehend would be glad to quit for one here w^ch^ are more valuable if His Ldp should favour him with Approbation—We have also lost M^r^ Dulany the Comm^y^ whose office M^r^ Tasker Sen^r^ has accepted but as it is necessary for a Person in that Employment to be skilled in the Law I beleive He would be well satisfied to have M^r^ Dan^l^ Dulany joined with him in the Commiss^n^ and as it is an encreasing Office it would I imagine answer the expectations of Both should He also be approved of by his Ldp: to succeed his Father in the Council I know not of any Person more proper p. 18

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

transmitted by the aforementioned Capt.

S^r^

having received advice of M^r^ Charles Goldsborough's intention to apply by M^r^ Hanbury's means for a seat in the Council I thought proper to intimate to you that the Family from which this Gent^n^ is descended have always signalized themselves by their opposition to the Government; & there is little Room from his general Behaviour to suppose this Gent^ns^ Sentiments differ from his Predecessors: neither can it be justly represented (tho as a Lawyer he might have some Character that any superiour Abilities give Him reason to expect his

Letter Bk. I. Ldp's favours w^ch^ might be better conferred on those who have recommended themselves by some preceeding merit & to that He can by no means have any pretensions.

P S. I take this opportunity of informing you of the arrival of the arms by Capt White from w^m^ I received y^r^ favour of the 29^th^ of August—

[Governor De Lancey to Sharpe.]

New York 11 Dec^r^ 1753.

Sir

On Friday last I recieved the inclosed letter, (with others to the Governors of Virginia, Pensylvania, New Jerseys, New Hampshire & the Massachusetts Bay) from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations to be forwarded as addressed; and as they are referred to in thier Lordships letter to me, I inclose you an extract of it, in persuance of which I proposed an interview with the Indians at Albany on the 13^th^ or 14^th^ day of next June. The Assembly have this day resolved, that they will make Provision for the presents usually given on such occasions and for the expence of my Voyage, so that I intend to meet the Indians at the time and place abovementioned, The Assembly have also resolved (upon my laying before them the letter from the Earl of Holdeness one of his Majestys principal Secretaries of state) that they will make a suitable Provision for Assisting any of the Neighbouring Colonies to repell force by force in case they be invaded in an Hostile manner by any armed force whatsoever. I send you the extract of a letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego, by which it appears, if the information be true, that the designs of the French on the Ohio have proved abortive. I am

Sir

Your most obedient & most humble Servant

James De Lancey

The Hon^ble^ Horatio Sharp
Governor of Maryland.

Original. [Lord Glencairn to Sharpe.]

My Dear Sharpe

I dont know if I should have troubled you with a letter till such time as you had made as much money as you deserved and had come home and setled in your own countrie, then I wold have writ you a letter of Congratulation, but as I'm now obliged to trouble you on another account before I mention

the Subject allow me to wish you all meanes of hapiness, and ashore you no freind you have wishes you better than I doe, nor wold rejoys more to hear of your prosperity, but as I know you Govrs have not much time to spair to write to your old freinds and acquantances shall not be surprised if I have no answer to this—

but to come to the point I had this day a letter from my Sister Lady Margt Grham whom you know, beging me to recomend to your protection two young Gentlemen in Anapolis, the name of the one is George Stewart a Doctor as his brother cals him, the other is caled William, but of what profesion is not mentioned to me, I know nothing of ether of the men, but if they behave well, as they are recomended by my sister I will allways esteme it as a favour you take notis of them and doe them what servis lays in your power, I have been close in Scotland since I saw you, so can write you no news but that our marine affairs are in the same way you left them, My wife joins me in best Respects to you, and with unalterable affection I am

My Dear Sharpe
Yr most affect freind
and humble Servant
Glencairn

Kilmarnoc
24th Decr 1753.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

Calvert Papers.

London Iany the 5th 1754

Sir

I have yrs Augst the 22d & Sepr the 14th yr safe arrival at Annapolis is a Satisfaction & pleasure to hear & of yr being in the Seat of Goverment My Lord has yrs Sepr the 14th he sends you his Compts & doubts not yr strict adherence to him & all Concerns he has committ'd to yr Care. Is satisfied with yr observance of the 15th Article of his Instns to the Council, touching his "Notice of continuance of Them his Council & Members of the Upp House of Assembly for their Steadiness to his Father & their just Conduct during his Minority on Public Affairs & in Support of his Rights. yr Observance of his 74th Article of Instns he approves."

The Summons of the Council to Consider of the Twelve Miles Circle round New Castle Town" Had the Councils opinion transmitt'd, answd the Resolve of the Inst by description, How at & near the Head of Chesopeak Bay Bears East & North the Rivers Streams in. That is, Whether their Spring Heads wod be Clear off the Perisphry of the 12 Miles Circle to be form'd round New Castle Town, it wod have been Satisfactory. But of this you say "the Pensilvanians will not permit any Person to take observations, therefore it is impossible to

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say Certain" However observations must be had more Certain than has been. The Messrs Vasey & Iones Mathematicians say, "Comparing the North Line run by Mr Emory, with a Line paralel to it about two Miles distance from New Castle Town, Maryland will gain above the Head of Elk River abt Three Thousand Barren Acres from New Castle County. But say they She loses abt the Head of Broad Creek, Bohemia & two Rivers Sassafras & Chester above Twenty times as much" Mr Emery endeavours to Accot for an Allowance made by Mr Vazey of the variation Vizt" If Mr Vazey had run his Line not allowing for the variation it wod near have Struck Warwick Town "by wh he Apprehends" the 12 Miles Circle to be round New Castle will not take any Navigable Waters that a Canoe can swim in Tis of consequence realy to know upon adjustg the measurmt of the Circle of what Effect to Maryland? wh at present bet: his Lordps Mathematicians is inaccurate & deprives him to form final Determination, having no Intelligence that enables him with any Criterion to conclude Boundaries Eastd bet: Maryland & Pensilvania. The Messrs Penns want no Intelligence from their Province of the Lat: North & South & of Longitude the Maridian bet: any two Places East & West to Substitute Lines to perfect Cramp or Pillage the Inheritance of Maryland. This is Exemplyfy'd in the Articles of Agreemt with them & the late Lord by a Chart fix'd thereunto, suspect'd theirs & transmitt'd to the late Lord from his Province, said Knavishly, hoped ignorantly. The Chart has no Description, is plan'd with no Distance of one Place from another or has it a Scale. Thus stands his Lordp in Dilemna involved witht knowledge to Steer his Course. Gentelmen of the Province that have & are in Lucrative Employs have been write to for advice & Intelligence wh they have Neglected Answg not to Enter into agreemt with the Pensilvanian Proprietors until his Lordp was Apprised of the true State. All recd from them dependant many years, has been Doubts & Blown Surmises, Trash for Law Pleadgs Endless in Dispute.

My Lord approves of yr Endeavour with Lord Fairfax's in Virginia to fix the Branch of Potomack River by another Branch rung South West, it will enlarge & Extend Maryland much more than the Branch rung North West, & will Advantage Lord Fairfax as to his Particular Tract of Land, yet it will be very Difficult to gain the Colony of Virginia Consent to resettle, as it will be the Losser by alterg the Course of the River, wh has been Settled by Order of the Crown, & of wh the late Lord Baltimore had Notice & was present with Lord Fairfax at the Hearing before the Council, whose Report the King Confirm'd, & Accordingly the Spring Head has been Determin'd

by the Virginia Comiss^rs^ Exparte with^t^ Maryland Comiss^rs^ Lord Baltimore Pray^g^ None. Lord Fairfax & the Colony of Virginia's Chart of the Courses of the Rivers Rapphanock & Potomack the latter the fix'd Boundary South bet: Maryland & Virginia Accord^g^ to the Order of the King & Council in 1736 & 1737. Calvert Papers.

His Lord^ps^ desires you will obtain M^r^ Cresapes Opinion Certain by Observation of the North Temporary Line. His Majesty's Line by advice of his Council bet: Maryland & Pensilvania, of w^h^ Line I Learn M^r^ Cresap thinks is North of the highest Bend & Flow of Potomack River. If the Bend is over the Line the Pensilvanians will claim Water Passage to the Spring Head & on that River; it is of Consequence to know upon Settl^g^ the North Temporary Line. The 12 Miles Circle to be round New Castle in point of Measurem^t^ you write, is best superficialy had "& Say" it is a Country abounds with Hills" With Submission. How can Superficial Measurem^t^ on a Plane Answ^r^ Mixt with Hills? Excuse Me, a complet Circle on such ground can't be performed but by Measure Horizontal to answer Equal Radiuses from the Center to the Periphery of a round Circle. I observe, the Town of Warwick by M^r^ Emory's Chart is off his 12 Miles Circle of New Castle, & his Observations are, no Navigable Waters are Tangent to the Circle of Depth, this answ^g^ Horizontal Measure & giving the Pensilvanians no Inlet by Water Carriage into Chesopeak Bay wo^d^ be Contentm^t^ as it wo^d^ not Subject his Lord^p^ nor his Province to Loss by their having pretence of Navigation Passage thro' the Province & thereby be the Carriers of Maryland produce & to smuggle in & out Traffick Duty ffree. By Let^r^ from Cecil County Aug^t^ the 2^d^ 1753 from Mess^rs^ Vazey & Iones to M^r^ Ienings Dep^y^ Sec^y^ w^h^ I have read, they meet with particular opposition on their Endeavours by Observat^n^ North^d^ in the Province from Cap^t^ Peregrine Ward his Lord^ps^ Iustice of the Peace, such Behaviour is very blamable by him a Conservator of the Peace, ag^t^ Persons by Authority sent in Right of Dominion Grant'd by Royal Charter. My Lord Notes him deserving of Resentm^t^ at proper time to you. On further Observation on M^r^ Emory's Chart south near Fenwick Island near the East shore, where the Pensilvanians insist Cape Hinlopen is, a Line is run from East to West to Taylors & James Islands in Chesopeak Bay. On that Line two Meridian Division Lines are Tangent, run up as Division Lines to be run on the Peninsula the East Shore, up to the 12 Miles Circle off New Castle. Of these Lines, the East^d^ the Maryland Comiss^rs^ insisted in Right to Maryland. The West^d^ the Pensilvanians Comiss^rs^ insisted in Right to Pensilvania. These Lines were propositions of the Comiss^rs^ at their

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meet^{g} at the Meridian of the Line, & where the Com̄iss^{rs} Disagreed. The Maryland Com̄iss^{rs} aledging the Division Line East was the Meridian of the Line a Cross the Peninsula & w^{h} Line ought to stop on the Verge of the Main Land West at Chesopeak Bay. The Pensilvanian Com̄iss^{rs} aledg'd the West Line Tangent on the Line run to Chesopeak Bay aught to run & stop on the West Verge of Taylors & Iames Islands in Chesopeake Bay; under pretence they are not Islands, but the Main Land of the Peninsula, thereupon both Com̄iss^{rs} Disagree^{g} they Departed with^{t} determination. The fixing Cape Hinlopen at Fenwick Island, w^{ch} the Ancient & the Modern Maps set near the Enterance of Delaware Bay ab^{t} 20 Miles North of Fenwick Island, the Maryland Com̄iss^{rs} agree^{g} it to be there is very injurious to Maryland. The Chart to the Articles of agreem^{t} bet: the late Lord & the Mess^{rs} Penns co^{d} give them no Directions or Knowledge thereto, nor had they any Directions or Authority from the late Lord for so Doing, further the space bet: the two Tangent Division Lines North up to the Circle off New Castle, the Line West if Grant'd favours too much to the Penns the Division of the Peninsula on the East side, taking the Largest share of Country & two Large Rivers that flows into a Broad Creek, whose Waters run into Nanticok River, w^{h} runs into the Bay of Chesopeak Southw^{d} these Waters are Navigable by M^{r} Emory's Remark for Ships of Burthen, carrying three Hundred Hogsh^{ds} of Tobacco near Ten Miles up from the Broad Creek, by w^{h} they will Claim Navigation Passage in & out of the Bay of Chesopeak, this is one advantage, besides their fixing Cape Henlopen at Fenwick Island to run the Line from East to West to Chesopeak Bay the Broadest Part of the Peninsula to fix a Meridian Line up to the Circle off New Castle, if that Line is Admitt'd to the Islands in Chesopeak Bay the Pensilvanian Com̄iss^{rs} will have Smuggled a Considerable Country out of Maryland to their Colony. On further Attention to M^{r} Emory's Chart is, on the South side of Indian River run^{g} into the Atlantick Ocean, a Line East & West to Choptank Bay West the Waters of Chesopeak Bay By his Remarks is a Land at the Inlet of Indian River bear^{g} North & by West one Mile & the Sea Beach from the Inlet bears N. & W. ab^{t} five Miles, then N. N. W. ab^{t} four Miles, then near N. by E. ab^{t} six or seven Miles to the true Cape Hinlopen at the Enterence of Delaware Bay. Where the Speaker M^{r} Onslow, Guardian to his Lord^{p} Offer'd the Mess^{rs} Penns to Consider with them on Lord Baltimores Behalf for run^{g} the Line East & West to the Bay of Chesopeak, & for settl^{g} a Meridian Line to run up to the Circle off New Castle Town, agreeable to the Order of the King & Council in 1685, w^{h} offer they refused. However, with refer-

rence to the Premises. Instead of that East & West Line South of Indian River to Choptank Bay, a Line be run East & West on the North side of the Inlet of that River to Choptank Bay, & that a Meridian Line thereon be run North up to the Periphery of the 12 Miles Circle off New Castle, to answer the Order of Council in 1685, as the Division Line of the Peninsula the East side to the Crown, the West side to Maryland. A Line so Run I apprehend My Lord by such Division of the Peninsula, will Lose No Patented Land at present und[r] occupation & with preservation of Navigable Waters on the West side of the Peninsula up to the Circle off New Castle & this I mean by offer, as an Expedient to bring the Mess[rs] Penns to a Compromise & taking the three Lower Counties they have no Right to by Express Discription of their Charter However 'tis a Territory the Lords of Council by their Report to the King in 1685 deprives Maryland of & the Regal Dicision Confirm[g] that order as to Dominion of that part to Maryland is, Determinable. But of this Propositions & Matter you are desired to Consider with the Advice of the Council & to make Report thereof to his Lord[p]. Calvert Papers.

Follow[g] is a Copy concern[g] the 40[th] Degree North Lat: of Maryland with the Question Propounded & the Resemblance by Plan of the Province put to the most Emminent & Learned Counsel in Our Law, with their opinions thereon. The Maryland Charter Viz[t] "From Watkins Point near the River Wighis on the West unto the Main Ocean on the East & between that Bound on the South unto that part of Delaware Bay on the North w[h] lieth under the 40[th] Degree of Northern Lat: from the Equinoctial where New England Ends."

2. "Whether Lord Baltimore has or can claim a Right to any Lands laying Northward of the Peninsula & of the Bay of Delaware & Chesopeak & the Bounds as understood at the time of his Grant within the Grant of Pensilvania now setled above forty years."

S[r] Clement Wearg's opinion "That the intent of the King seems to him he intended Maryland shos[d] not extend North beyond Delaware Bay w[h] was then thought to reach the 40[th] Degree Lat: This is confirm'd by the Subsequent Grant to Pensilvania & by the Line Drawn by the Anscestors of Lord Baltimore.

S[r] John Wills opinion That it expressly appears by the Grant—Maryland was not to Extend Northwards beyond the Isthmus of the Peninsula

S[r] Philip York's opinion That the Boundaries Described by Lord Baltimore's Grant must now be understood in the same manner as they were at the time of making thereof & so consequently that in Case the Extent of Maryland to the North

Calvert Papers.

to be to the 48th Degree of Northern Lat: yet that 40th Degree must be taken to be according to the calculation allow'd at that time & as it was then Laid down in Maps & Charts Even tho' that Calculation was Erroneus and what rather convinces me that Lord Baltimore can claim Nothing to the Northward of the Peninsula is that the Discription is not to the 40th Degree of the Northern Lat: But to that part of Delaware Bay wh lays under the 40th Degree of Northern Lat: Now if Delaware Bay be Rightly laid down on the Plan laid before me no part comes near to that Line where by their late observations they would fix the 40th Degree of Northern Lat: & therefore that would not be Northern Boundary intended by the Grant."

In answer of the Charter Stated, Map & Question with the Counsels Opinion thereupon, It is to be observed. The Map or Plan of the Province laid before the Counsel is Charted from no Geographick Authority or has it a Scale & the North extention of Delaware Bay by Ancient & Modern Charts is Plan'd in the Mass Erroneous short Northwd. The Latin Citation of the Charter aught to have been before the Counsel & the Question with Substance shod have been propounded The Maryland Charter, the words are, "Subjacet quadragessimo gradni lat Septentr., of wh words the plain & Obvious meaning is certainly in translating lieth under the 40th Degree of North Lat: These Degrees are measured upon imaginary circles lying upon the Globe; and therefore to lye under the 40th Degree is most evidently not to lye under other Degrees exclusive of the 40th Degree. Further concerning that Degree to Maryland, The Grant to the Council at Plymouth the words of that Charter is "from forty Degrees of Northerly Lat: wh evidently means that the Lands Granted were to begin under the 41st & not under the 40th Degree, for then it wod not have been from but with or under the 40th Degree as it is most Accurately expressed in the Maryland Charter. It cannot mean that these Lands should begin where the thirty-ninth Degree ends, because 40 degrees are mention'd; and thus this Charter coincides with that of Maryland. If the 40th Degree is not Grant'd away by the Maryland Charter, there can offer not the least pretence for its having been Granted by the New-England Charter; it has never been Granted at all. As to the Pensilvania Charter the South Boundary of that Province is

Expressive from the 12 Miles Circle Northwd off New Castle Town by Delaware Bay & this Charter is Subsequent to the Maryland Charter. If the Prior Grant is to yeild to the Subsequent wh Sr Clement Wearg's Opinion says, than the North Line of Maryland is the south Bounds of Pensilvania to the Meridian Altitude of the Springhead of Potomack River West. As to the Line he Notes, Drawn by the Ancestors of Lord Baltimore, "tis a Deception on the Chart that Line was to prevent Mischief until a Boundary Line was adjusted bet: the two Provinces, the Line was Run but a little way, only where the Mischief & wrangle had happen'd & the Line is of proof so, for was that Line Admitt'd, it wod prove no Parallel Line to the 40th Degree of Lat: on the Contrary a Line of Declination East & Southwd to the Springhead of Potomack River. That pretended Line was Marked on Trees Agree'd by the Govr to serve Purpose, & Not by Consent of the Proprietor of Maryland, therefore, whoever Run that Line on the Map was Either Knave or Novice, & if admitted wod ipso facto highly wrong the Charter & the Province of Maryland in Dominion, North & by West. And to proceed with reference to Charts, the North Boundary of Maryland plainly appears is the Parallel of the 40th Degree Lat: wh had before been laid down by Smith's Map in 1606 & by the Dutch Chart in 1630 & proves the South Boundary of New-England, wh is the North Boundary of Virginia out from the Latter Maryland was taken. By that Parallel of Lat: most part of Philadelphia City is 3 Minits Below the Parallel of the 40th Degree as laid down by Smith the Dutch & by Lord Baltimores Map in 1635 these are the Ancient Charts of them times, Estimat'd & proves the 40th Degree agreeable to Mr York's opinion. But of this is replyed; On Tryal the opinion of the Court of Chancery determined not the Crown's Right of the 40th Degree Lat: nor Cape Hinlopen nor concerng the 3 Lower Counties the Division Line of the East Shore, the Court determined only the Private Articles of Agreemt bet: the late Lord & the Messrs Penns. If Maryland suffers by the private Contract of Agreemt tis to the want of the late Lord Baltimore's Consideration on his & her Behalf & the Care was, that matters shosd have been Iudiciously offered to the Court wh was not on the Day of

Calvert Papers.

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Tryal said by all present that the Deficiency in Support of his Lord^{ps} Maryland Cause & the Counsels Plea was apparently owing to the want of Inst^{ns} Be it so or not, the Courts Opinion was ag^{t} his Lord^{p} & Confirm^{g} the Articles of Agreem^{t} the Question now is Whether Binding on the present Lord & whether its not best to agree to the Temporary Line to be Run accord^{g} to the Order of his Majesty in Council the 25th of May 1732—if so, tho' not Binding on the Crown: the Temporary Line sho^{d} be truly Run, w^{h} at present is not agreeable to the order i. e. 15 Miles south from Philadelphia City, as the Boundary Line bet: the two Provinces. Your Judgem^{t} with the Advice & Opinion of the Council of State on these matters of importance transmitted, will be of Real Service for adjust^{g} Affairs. My Lord being Resolved to put an End, if possible to further Litigation at Law, very Expensive, on him only; on the Contrary with the Mess^{rs} Penns, said to be Bourn in Proportion, by the People of Pensilvania.

By this occasion, you have the Province Laws from M^{r} Tasker the President of the Council, When in the seat of Goverm^{t} the Cause of return is, the perpetual Act of Assembly passed in the Reign of Queen Anne, for the Annual Support of the Gov^{r} being put into a folio of Laws as a Loose Paper. Y^{r} Brother Iohn says, the only resourse is to return it with the Laws by him Authenticated & to have y^{r} Authenticity to it Bound with the other Laws complete, w^{h} My Lord desires of you & the return of them with dispatch; for on Appeal from Maryland, the Laws are absolute Necessary to the Lords of the Council & Lords of Trade & Plantation & accord^{s} to His Majesty's Order of Council for their transmission. M^{r} Taskers pretence of Doubt, has not giving Authenticity to that Law rises, Qurd Whether the Act of 1704 is not set aside by the late Lord Proprietors Assent to an Act, Intituled an Act Ascertaining the Gauge & Tare of Tobacco Hogsh^{ds} "in w^{h} Act was included the support of the Gov^{r} & w^{h} Act continued until 1720. Since the Expiration a Rediculous Doubt is started by him & others who craftyly imposed on him, from the Act in 1717 mention^{g} the One Shilling on Tobacco Hogsh^{ds} for the Support of Goverm^{t} Given by the Act of 1704. Not that they Doubt the Act of 1704 is void to the Crown But to the Lord Proprietor. The proviso Clause in the Act of 1717 Recites "That the Money that shall be raised by the said Duty shall be apply'd to those Ends & uses for w^{h} it hath hitherto been raised (Viz^{t}) Twelve pence of the fifthteen pence p^{r} Hogsh^{d} to the Lord

Proprietor for the support of Goverm^{t} the remaind^{r} three pence for Arms &c" & says "the one shilling p^{r} Hogsh^{d} be apply'd to the Station & Dignity of his Lord^{ps} Lieu^{t} Gov^{r} residing in the Province." Therefore say these Politicians, the Proprietor having Acquiesced to the Annual Support of Goverm^{t} in his Act of 1717 tho' inter Al: ab^{t} paym^{t} of his Quit-Rents & of Arms & Ammunition (the two last concerns being the only real reasons the Act was made) yet say they by his Assent to the Act, includ^{g} the Support of Goverm^{t} on the Expiration of the said Act, all Support of Goverm^{t} is void to the Proprietor & he must depend on future Gift thereof, from the Legislative Power ad Libitum as to his Lord^{p} such is M^{r} Taskers & others Confused Chimerical Ideas, that occasioned his Doubtful transmiss^{n} of the Crowns Act in 1704 with regard to the Lord Proprietor. Usage to his Lord not becoming him nor of the sacred Authority of the Act, Especially from him, Who was by his Lord^{p} & his Guardians Highly Honoured with the Helem of Goverm^{t} & took his Quota of the one shilling p^{r} Hogsh^{d} by Virtue & in Right by the Royal Act of 1704. For y^{r} Better Information I Briefly State, Extracts of Assembly Acts of & con^{g} the support of the Gov^{r} & Goverm^{t} as you'l find Proof of Recorded in Maryland. Calvert Papers.

By Virtue of Let^{rs} Patent it is Concived, the Lord Baltimore & His Heirs were constituted & Appointed the Kings Hereditary Gov^{rs} of the Province of Maryland: And accordingly the first Lord Baltimores Either by Themselves, their Deputies or Lieu^{t} Governors Approved of by the Crown administred the Goverment of that Province from the time of Peopling & settling the same under the Royal Charter, until the year 1692, at w^{h} time on Acco^{t} of the Lord Baltimore & his family being Roman Catholicks, the Crown was pleased to Appoint & Commission a Governor & to do so until the year 1715, When the then Lord Baltimore became a Protestant the Power of Appointment of Lieu^{t} Gov^{r} was restored & rested in him, with the Kings Approbation.

So Early, as in 1638, 1641, 1642 & 1671. subsidys were raised by Act of Assembly, for Support of Goverm^{t} until 1692 at w^{h} time a Gov^{r} being appointed by the Crown a Perpetual Law was made—Intituled an Act for Settlement of an Annual Revenue upon their Majesty's Gov^{r} for the time being. This Act continued in Force till October 1704, in w^{h} Sessions of Assembly another Perpetual Act was made—Intituled An Act for Settlement of an Annual Revenue upon Her Majesty's Gov^{r} within this Province for the time being (on w^{h} Act the present Application is made) under this Act the Support of

Calvert Papers. Goverm^{t} was raised till 1716. when the late Lord Baltimore assum'd the Administration of Goverm^{t}. The Assembly then being convinced by Reason mentioned in the Act, that a Larger Support for Goverm^{t} than One Shilling was Necessary, Intended by that Act to be provided for & to include & Exclude other matters in the same Act, They did by an Act lay a Duty of 15^{d} p^{r} Hogsh^{d} instead of 12^{d} p^{r} hh^{d} In the Act of 1704. By an Act of 1716 w^{h} Act was Temporary from w^{h} time upon the Expiration of that Act the Goverm^{t} has been & still continues to be supported By the Perpetual Act in 1704—still unrepeal'd.

So that, the Goverm^{t} being in Possession of & continue to receive the Duty directed by the said Act of 1704, the only Question since as I can find was in 1733. By the Lo^{r} House of Assembly—The comittee in their partial Report recited not the Preamble of the Act of 1671. No Notice is taken w^{h} might tend to the Honor & Iustice of Lord Baltimore's Ancestors, w^{h} the Preamble recites Viz^{t} With all Imaginable Gratitude & Thankfullness for his Lord^{ps} unwearied care & Vast Expences & Charges w^{h} his Lord^{p} had been put from his first Seating his Lord^{ps} Province unto that Instant meerly to preserve them with Enjoym^{t} of their Lives & Liberties with Encrease of their Estates & Fortunes & for the conservation of all Societies. The Charge of Every Goverment without which it cannot Subsist ought in Reason to be bourn by those whose conservation depend upon the Goverment for and towards defraying the many Great & Necessary Expences &c.

And by w^{h} Act Intituled an Act for Raising & Providing a Support his Lord^{p} the Lord Proprietor of this Province (in lieu of his Rents &c) during his Natural Life & likewise (incerted) a Supply towards the Defraying the Public Charges of Goverm^{t}. These Grateful Ancestors their Desendants take No Notice of the Benefits their forefathers had rec^{d} from the 1st Proprietor, only in their Report recite, several Temporary Acts for support of Goverment During the Administration by Lord Baltimores Ancestors—And then recite An Act made in 1692 when M^{r} Copley was Gov^{r} soley under the Crown, w^{h} Act the Report possitively Asserts to have been continued as a Law of this Province by a Gen^{l} Assembly the 28th of June the 11th of W^{m} the 3^{d} in 1699" And from the Strength of that Asscertion this inference is made by that Report "That by the frequent continuance & Re-Enacting the said Act of 1692 During the time wherein the Goverm^{t} & Protection of the Province was in the Crown The Legislature did not Deem the same or any of them perpetual—But to have a Duration only with such Gov^{r} & Goverm^{t}

Be pleased to observe—1st the Act of 1692 for a Settlem^{t}

of an Annual Revenue upon their Majesty's Gov^{r} &c is By the very Terms a Perpetual Law without Limitation of Time or Duration Whatsōver. That it could never be understood to have duration only with such Gov^{r} or Goverm^{t}. The Act made in 1692 when M^{r} Copley was Gov^{r} who Died in Sep^{r} 1693. It continued in force his Goverm^{t} & during the Presidentship of Col: Greenbury then again in the Goverm^{t} of S^{r} Edmund Andros, The President^{p} of S^{r} Tho^{s} Lawrence & the Goverm^{t} of Col: Nicholson so that it continued from 1693 to 1698. And the Act of 1699 mention'd in the Report was made in the 1st year of the Goverm^{t} of Coł: Blackiston. Therefore the said Inferance made by the Report is from a Supposed frequent continuance & re-enacting the said Act of 1692. Whereas Only one Continuance & as to re-enact^{g} is Alledged, Viz^{t} that of 1699. Moreover to put this point beyond dispute. The Act of 1699 was Dissented to by King William, Notwithstand^{g} w^{h} the Act of 1692 as it continued in force before the Act of 1699 & the Support of Goverm^{t} was raised thereby during the Goverm^{t} of M^{r} Copley &c as before mentioned in the Reigns of W^{m} & Mary & K. William So after the Dissent of the Act 1699 the Support of Goverm^{t} was raised by the Act of 1692 during the Goverm^{t} of Coł. Blackiston. The President^{p} of M^{r} Tench & part of the Goverm^{t} of Coł: Seymour from the time of his coming to the Goverm^{t} to the time of making the aforesaid perpetual Law of 1704. Calvert Papers.

(Vide the Dissent & Let^{r} April the 4th 1700 from the Council at Annapolis)

The next observation made by the Cōmittee in their Report is, "That it was the sense of the Legislature, That Acts grant^{g} to the Prop^{ry} for the Support of his Goverm^{t} did not Extend to that of the King as they said was mainifested in the Act of 1692; that of 1676 being still unreapealed & having expresly its Duration with the Life of Charles Lord Baltimore Lord Proprietary of this Province" The meaning of this is that Act made for support of Lord Baltimore's Goverm^{t} cannot be Extended to, or be Suffiēnt to raise a Support for his Majesty's Goverm^{t}. This may be very true, and yet it will not follow from thence, that Acts made for the Support of his Majesty's Goverm^{t} will not be Sufficient for the Support of Goverm^{t} of w^{h} Lord Baltimore by himself or his Deputy Gov^{r} has the Administration for in the one Case, the whole Cause or Purpose for w^{h} such Act is made (Id Est) for Support of the Lord Baltimore's Goverm^{t} is intierly gone & Ceases upon the Kings taking to himself the Goverm^{t} But in the other case, the whole Cause or purpose for w^{h} such Act is made (Id Est) for Support of the King's Goverm^{t} does not Cease upon Lord Baltimore being again Admitted to the Administration of such

Calvert Papers.

Goverment For Lord Baltimore is but his Majesty's Hereditary Govr and at most has but the Utile Dominum. So that it will always be the Kings Goverm^{t} & Consequently intended to be & Provided for by any Act raising a Support for his Majesty's Goverment, In whatsoever hands the Administration is.

The next thing concluded by the Comittee is, "That when the Goverm^{t} was restored to the Lord Proprietor the Act of Gauge & Tare was made for Support of his Lord^{ps} Goverm^{t} & the other uses therein Expressed." It is certain the aforesaid Act Intituled An Act Ascertaining the Gauge & Tare of Tobacco Hogsh^{ds} was made after Lord Baltimore was Admitted to the Administration of the Goverm^{t} and by that Act a Support of Goverm^{t} was raised But upon Perusal of that Act It cannot appear or be suggested, that that Act was made upon an opinion or Iudgem^{t} that the Act of 1704 Did not provide for the support of the Gov^{r} as far as it went. But the true Reason of making such Act seems to be, Because the Assembly for the Reasons ment^{d} In that Act Iudged it Necessary to Increase the Support of Goverm^{t} from 12^{d} to 15^{d} p^{r} Hogsh^{d} and also were desirous to Ioyn the composition and Agreem^{t} of the country with his Lord^{p} for his Quit-Rents & Alenation fines &c as well as the Gauge & Tare of Tobacco Hogsh^{d} in the same Act.

The Report mentions "That by what Acts appear to them at all times made for the Support of his Lord^{ps} Goverm^{t} &c. the same has been Ioined with a consideration for his Quit-Rents & Alienation fines & w^{h} made it appear to the comittee that the Legislators always deemed their Granting towards the support of his Lord^{ps} Goverm^{t} as a Mixed Consideration not only for that Particular use but towards a Compensation of the others likewise" What Acts did or did not Appear to them is Immaterial But the Fact w^{h} is Endeavoured to be insinuated of a Mixed Consideration in such Acts is false. For by the Act made in 1638 Intituled "An Act Ordaining certain Laws for the Goverm^{t} of this Province" Also another Act made in 1641 Intituled An Act for Grant^{g} of one Shilling and by another Act made made in 1642 Intituled "An Act for support of Goverm^{ts} These were Dutys laid for Support of Goverm^{t} with^{t} any other Consideration than Gratitude to the Lord Proprietor for His Great Charge & care w^{h} his Lord^{p} had been put in Maintain^{g} the Goverm^{t} & Protect^{g} the Inhabitants in their Persons Rights & Liberties &c. as Expressed in the said Act of 1641. with^{t} Inference of a Mixed Consideration Suggested in the Report. It seems as if the Comittee imagined the Goverm^{t} when Administred by the Lord Baltimore or his Deputys ought not to be supported Unless his Lord^{p} wo^{d} make

some Composition or Agreem^{t} with his Tenants in paym^{t} of their Quit-Rent &c. But it is presumed His Majesty will not suffer the Goverm^{t} of any Part of his Dominions to be left Destitute or Deprived of a Support for such reasons. Calvert Papers.

Upon the whole It appears by all the Acts made for the Support of Goverm^{t} since 1661 that no less but sometimes more than One Shilling p^{r} hh^{d} has been thought a reasonable & Necessary Support of Goverm^{t} And Even the Lo^{r} House who made this Application by Bill sent from them to the Upp^{r} House Did Iudge One shilling proper for such support of the Dignity of the Gov^{r} So that no Objection can be made to the Expectations of the Goverm^{t} of Maryland as to the Quantum of the Support.

And further the Lo: House of Assembly in March 1732/3 were then Apprised of this Act of 1704 & that the Goverm^{t} of Maryland wo^{d} relye on that Act for a Support If that Goverm^{t} sho^{d} not by another Perpetual Law Equally well at least Supported. For in that Sessions a Temporary Bill for Support of Goverm^{t} was sent from the then Lo: House to the Upp^{r} who Return'd the Bill to the Lo: House with two (amongst other) Amendm^{ts} to this Effect Viz^{t} To add a Clause to Repeal the said Perpetual Law of 1704 & to leave out the Temporary Duration of the Bill by w^{h} means It would be perpetual" But the Lo: House did not proceed any further in that Bill or Amend^{ts} & so the Bill drop'd. Notwithstanding w^{h} Notice of this Act & the Matter Debated, No Opposition (as I am informed) ever since (till now Suggested) has been made to the Act of 1704. But the same has been always Acquiessed in & the Duty constantly paid under it as every Merch^{t} in Maryland & that Trades to the Province is well know^{g} thereof & can Testifye. Which Behaviour of the Assembly & people of Maryland (It is apprehended) Sufficiently testifies their Approbation & Consent to the Force & Effect of the Act of 1704. And of further Proof of the same & opinion of the Assembly in 1734 that the Act of 1704 was Sufficiently in force It is to be Observed, That during the time the Administration of the Goverm^{t} was immediately under the Crown & whilest it was Supported by the said Act of 1704 3^{d} p^{r} Hogsh^{d} was raised for the Necessary Charges of the Goverm^{t} which Necessary charges by Subsequent Acts were Explained & the 3^{d} raised thereby was appropriated for a Magazine & to Provide Arms & Ammunition. The same 3^{d} was raised also from the time of his late Lord^{p} having the Administration of the Goverm^{t} by the same Temporary Acts w^{h} raised a Support for Goverm^{t} & a Composition for his Lord^{ps} Quit-Rents & Alienation Fines, That Composition ceasing in Sep^{r} 1733. The Assembly held in 1737 made an Act to raise the 3^{d} with^{t} making any mention

Calvert Papers.

of Provision for the support of Goverm^{t} being as presumed well Satisfyed. The Act of 1704 was in Force & Effectual for that Purpose.

I shall now conclude, my short Narrative of the Rise, Birth, & being & Progress of the several Acts of Assembly, to the Act of 1704, For the Support of his Majesty's Gov^{r} The Right of the Act of 1704 is so undeniable Apparent with the Crown & with Lord Baltimore as His Majesty's Hereditary Gov^{r} of Maryland, Its Quality is unto a Diamond not to be altered but by its own Power, w^{h} it has not as yet rece^{d} Therefore cannot want your Authenticity to the King & the Lord Proprietor as an Act of the Province & By w^{h} the Present Support of the Gov^{r} is raised. Y^{r} good sence will excuse My freedom of Reasoning occasion'd by impartial Notice of things, the Duty of My Office, & to put you on y^{r} Guard ag^{t} Attempts in prejudice to the Lord Proprietors Property & of the Support of Goverm^{t} wish^{g} you a Happy Iudgem^{t} in all things.

My Lord wishes the Completion of the Gov^{rs} House, hopes the Assembly will find means to finish their work, Espicially as requisite Luster to the Province, when finished will not want his valuable Gift. My Comiss^{n} as Provincial Sec^{y} impowers Me with the Appointm^{t} of the County Clerks. Having made known to the Proprietor M^{r} Comiss^{y} Dulany's request on the Death of M^{r} James Smith Clerk of Kent County pray^{g} the favour of his son Dennis Dulany in Succession to that Clerkship, My Lord approv^{g} I desire you'l Cause to be Entered a Mem^{dm} in My Office as my order & Appointm^{t} that M^{r} Dennis Dulany be Comiss^{d} accord^{gly} Clerk on Demise of M^{r} James Smith The Rev^{d} M^{r} Harris in My Lords Inst^{ns} gives me concern his notorious Badness, said Fogery bringing him under his Lord^{ps} high displeasure w^{h} can't by him be retrived But by recomd^{n} to My Lord on his Behalf from the Body of the Provincial Clergy. My Lord sends M^{r} Sam^{l} Chew his Comp^{ts} for his obliging Let^{r}

On Conclusion, I've y^{r} Packet By Cap^{t} Chew with y^{rs} of the 1st & 6th of Aug^{t} last. y^{r} Request ab^{t} M^{r} Ridout, you may depend of all Service in my power on vacancy & the Crown's cont^{g} the Officer of Customs at Chester. His Lord^{p} wo^{d} have been well-pleased, had My Plan for Receipt of his Quit-Rents been Completed. He thanks you for the Reduction in part 5 p^{r} C^{t} & depends on y^{r} Service of the rem^{dr} 5 p^{r} C^{t} taken off the Farmers two years hence, the Expiration of their Contracts, & at w^{h} time, he hopes the Sheriffs will be the Collectors of that part of his Revenue, accord^{g} to My Scheme delivered. He desires Quick dispatch of his Rentals, will Esteem it Obligatory, do not fail.

Y^{r} Speech in y^{rs} of the 6th his Lord^{p} Approves & is pleased

with the Houses Answers, Polite. Approves of y^r^ design by Bill from M^r^ Attor^y^ Gen^l^ to restore his Property in Princess Anne Town, taken by an Act in 1751, also of y^r^ Amendm^t^ to an Act of the same Session For the more Effectual punishm^t^ of Negroes & other Slaves &c Com̄en^ds^ y^r^ Endeavour & hopes you'l succed & obtain the 3^d^ p^r^ hh^d^ for Arms & Ammunition. By these y^r^ Transactions, you Manifest observance to his Lord^ps^ Inst^ns^ Artic: 19^th^ 68 & 69. Y^r^ Favour for the Rev^d^ M^r^ Malcolm, granted in his Lord^ps^ Inst^ns^ I wish him Ioy of I can't help Noting omission of Persons want of Regard of Thanks to My Lord for favours from him, many of the Council of State have Neglected such Acknowledgem^t^ By observation, the Gentl^n^ of the Lo: House are too Hasty in their proceed^gs^ My Lord Desires upon Division Proposition by Bill of Ecclesiastical Benefices, you will Consider & recom̄end to the Upp: House prevention of Divisions un-Necessary & to preserve valuable Benefice as Reward to Divines of peculiar Merit. Calvert Papers.

May all Health & Happiness attend you, is the Sincere Wish of him who is with all reality

Y^rs^
Cæcil^s^ Calvert.

Pos^t^ As it is not likely of a Comprimise bet: his Lord^p^ & the Mess^rs^ Penns, I therefore Aprise you to be on y^r^ Guard & to keep strictly to his Majestys Order of Council of the Tem-pōrary Line North Lat: I observe by a sketch of M^r^ Vezey to M^r^ Iennings a Large Pensilvanian Settlem^t^ South of that Line at the Head of Talbot Manor Q^re^ if not taken out of that Manor. & also to be observed two Maryland Settlem^ts^ East & West above that Line. M^r^ Tho^s^ Penn who is Dexterous, charges Land Grants have been Issued by Maryland contrary to the Order of the Kings Line. He produced Me one with a Seal to it, he said had from the Land Office to M^r^ Diggs, the New part of the Grant, he says are Lands Patented since the Kings Order for the Line North, w^h^ Lands had been Granted to another by his Land Office Prior to his Majesty's said order of Council. Such matter deserves attention to prevent Mischief & Danger the Touching the Kings Limitation. All old surveys, Grants of Mañors & of other Lands by the first & second Proprietors Lay^gs^ in out or on the Borders of the Disputed parts wo^d^ be of real use the having a Tested Copys of such, as they are Evidences of Ancient Tenure; the same of all ancient proceed^gs^ Viz^t^ The Virginia Act ab^t^ the year 1659 w^h^ impowered two Persons to take care of the Kings Lands Northw^d^ of the 40^th^ Degree Lat: w^h^ that Assembly as having the most reason of any Colony to be Acquanted with the real

Calvert Papers. Limits of Maryland & that Act was made known to Lord Baltimore in 1659 & it wo[d] be proper to get the Surveyors Proceed[gs] thereupon delivered to the R[t] Hon[ble] Francis Lord Effingham Gov[r] & to the Council of Virginia; these you can get from Virginia. And also transmit Lord Baltimore's Demand of Subjection to his Charter the People of Delaware up a long that Bay to the Northw[d] of New Castle Town & the observations taken in New Castle sent to Col: Francies Louelace Gov[r] of New York taken the 9[th] & 26[th] of Oct[r] 1669, these with others on the Records of Maryland properly Authenticated, will be of Great Utility as proper Supports of his Lord[ps] Cause & y[r] Early transmission of them is Desired.

Original. [H. Campbell to Sharpe.]

Sir

I shoud not have assurance to address you in this way without the enclosd to introduce me, as tis only the friendship & intimacy which subsists betwixt my Brother & you, can give me any title to ask a favour of you I know the purport of his letter is beging your Countnance & good offices, in favour of M[r] George Wightman a Scotch Gentilman now in Maryland, who went to that Country as a prarener & instructor in the mercantile way, to a sone of mine, who is now cald home on his friends finding that trade did not turn out in that part of the world as they expected, his partener M[r] Wightman is still there & will be for some months yet, to wind up there matters in the best way posible your favourable notice of him, may be of great service to my boyes little matters in that Country, & I hope at your friend Glencairns request youll be so good as give it him & if you woud not think me too importunat or rather impertinat in this my first adress I would beg an other favour & that is your Countinass to one Capt Brown a Scotch man too, who Livs & has a family in Mary Land, he sails often to London & brought home my sone a few weeks ago, the many Civilitys he showd my young man dureing his Residence in that Country obliges me to wish I coud make some return to them, & as I can no otherwise propose to discharge that debt, but by the good offices, of Governour Sharp if there be occasion for them, I hope he will not deny them, if you sir finde it not inconvenient to grant me these requests I shall ever retain a very gratfull sence of your goodness & am with high regard

Sir

your obliged humble

Edinr Jan[r] 29[th] 1754 Serv[t] H. Campbell

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Wᵐsburg Virgᵃ Ianʸ 29ᵗʰ 1754

Sir

Your kind Assurances of Cooperating with me in the common Cause for his Majesties Service gave me such Pleasure, as a Zeal like that which inspired them ought to give; and I now Address your Excellency the more chearfully, as I am perswaded of your Promptitude to contribute effectually to it, The Progress of the French and their avowed Designs make it necessary for me to apply for your Assistance and that the Men you can furnish may join our People as early as Possible in March, at a Place called Wills Creek, on the Head of Patowmack, which I have chosen for the Rendezvous, believing it to be the most convenient to all the Colonies of any that is near the scene of Action. The French have fortifyed themselves on Lake Erie, and on a Branch of the Ohio, and have 220 Canoes ready made, and a great many more blocked out, and everything in Readiness to execute their Design of falling down the River when the Waters serve in the Spring, and building Forts at every Place of Consequence. The Fort my Messenger was at mounted eight Pieces of Cannon six pounders, and was garrisoned with 150 Men, and they have already engaged the Chippoways, Ottoways and Orundacks to take up the Hatchet against the English, and themselves have Seized the Effects of his Majesty's Subjects who were Settled there & made Prisoners of their Persons. How they justify this Conduct your Excellency will see by the Inclosed Letter from their Commandant to me.

I think it wou'd very much conduce to the Success of the Service that the Command shou'd be undivided & therefore I shou'd be very glad of your Concurrance with my Sentiments, and that the Men you furnish might be put under the Command of my General Officer. I expect to meet our Assembly the 14th: of next Month, when I hope to be enabled to enter on more Vigorous Measures; at Present I have ordered out a Detachment from the Militia to cover the Works that are carrying on at our Fort on the Ohio, and shall with all Dispatch furnish them with the Stores & other necessaries for its completion But as the French intend to be upon the Ohio early in the Spring with a greater Force than they had in the Fall which then consisted of 1500 Men it will be of the last consequence to have a sufficient Strength there early to oppose them, and the present Temper of the Indians increases the necessity, as they seem to defer coming to Action 'till they see us at their Backs to support 'em & I am perswaded that they then will Act honestly and effectually. Otherwise it is apparent to me that they will be lost to the British Interest as their

Situation & the Genius of that People will lead them to join with the strongest Side.

Sir

Since writing the above I receiv'd yours of the 26th: December and am mighty glad of the Hopes you have that your Assembly will enable you to raise Men for the Support of his Majesty's undoubted right to the Lands on the Ohio and at the same Time to protect these Colonies from the Insolence of those that want to disturb our Peace; an answer to this by the Bearer will greatly Oblige

Your Excell^{y}
Most Obed^{t} Hum^{ble} Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Original.

[Cæcilius Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Feb^{ry} 2^{d} 1754.

Dear Sir

Inclosed is by the Bearer M^{r} Meyer's an Instruction by way of Testimonial from My Lord, for his Induction in the Province into Church Benefice; he is a young Divine Educated and Instituted at Cambridge University, where he finished his Studies with good Erudition & fair Character; his Father is an Honest Clergyman in Yorkshire near M^{r} Crowe my Brother in Law, your Favour to him we shall much Esteem.

I have received from M^{r} Thomas Penn The Report of the Commissioners appointed by the Governor of Pensilvania to Run the Temporary Line between that Province and Maryland, and in pursuance of His Majesty's order of Council the 25th of May 1738. I find by the Report that on Saturday the 5th of May 1739 "The Commissioners & Surveyors proceeded "on the Line which was set off at the End of the half mile "North & run the same to the Western Bank of Susquehannah "to an Hickery Tree which was mark'd with 4 Notches on "each side to be Temporary Limits between the two Provinces "on the West side of Susquehannah; should begin at that "Hickery Tree so mark'd to extend to the River Potomack "as should be necessary for the Peace of both Provinces; "which Division Line had it's Commencement from the South "side of a Run in a Tract said to be the London Company's "unto a Chesnut Oak of the East side of Susquehannah River, "South 15 miles & a quarter from the South part of the City "of Philadelphia &c.

That Sunday the 6th of May, the Maryland Commissioners M^{r} Gale & M^{r} Chamberlaine informed the Pensilvania Commissioners viz^{t} One by reason of his Loss of his son & Illness

of his Family being in great Distress on the occasion proposed an Adjournment, the other would not proceed but in Iunction with him; thereupon the Commissioners on both sides parted, of which the Commissioners of Pensilvania wrote word to their Governor, who sent them another Commissioner and they proceeded Exparte & continued the West Line so run to the mark'd Hickery Tree of the West of Susquehannah & extending it about 80 Miles towards the Meridian of the Fountain of Potomack.

Now the Remark is, whether the Additional Line run Exparte by them from the Hickery Tree West of Susquehannah, is a true fair Line according to His Majesty's order of Council, and the Propositions therein contained & agreed by the Proprietors by Consent of His Majesty, with the Advice of His Privy Council, to approve of the said Agreement between the Proprietors of the respective Provinces of Maryland & Pensilvania, thereby ordered to be carried into Execution, whereof the said Proprietors &c. are to take notice & Govern themselves accordingly.

His Lordship informs me to acquaint you, that he desires & requires of you without Loss of time to make Authentick Return to him of the Commissioners of Maryland's Report for the Run of the Temporary Line how far they proceeded with the Pensilvania Commissioners in pursuance of His Majesty's order of Council of the 25th of May 1738, also of the Additional Line Exparte run by the Commissioners of Pensilvania; and that you will, in Case not truely laid down, take measures to adjust the same with Pensilvania, so far as the Peace of Government shall make it necessary, and in Obedience to His Majesty's order of Council for that purpose.

I am with the greatest Respect
Your truly obedient Servant
Cæcil^{s} Calvert

Post. The inclosed Bill for Parl^{t} will be in the Commons next week, it having been moved by Petition to bring it in, to w^{h} the House has given Consent. The Affair of M^{r} Bradstreet is quiet, so you need not to have any uneasyness at what I wrote you thereupon the 5th of Jan^{y} last. M^{r} Jenings who is here is seldom seen, he resides far in the City, he has dined once with my Lord, how his situation in respect to Maryl^{d} is to end I can't as yet say, tis said he has sent to Ripon in Yorkshire to get his house ready he designing to settle there intirely. I shou^{d} be glad to know of you who is proper to succeed him as my Deputy with half the proffits to be paid me half yearly on his Coresp^{t} in London—The Mess^{rs} Penn have brought no Bill of Revision 'tis generaly thought they are willing of an

Amicable Agreem[t] but of this I can write nothing of they are so close. My Lord Desires you will remember him of his Rent Rolls by the return of Them he is quite uneasy not having Them

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq[r]

Letter Bk. I. p. 19

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Feb[y] 10 1754.

My Lord

I do myself the honour to express my gratefulness for the extreem pleasure I received from being informed of your Ldp's kind wishes toward me & to acquaint your Ldp with the decease of M[r] Young one of the Iudges of the Land Office which Accident I thought had given me an opportunity of serving two of the Gent[n] to whom your Ldp's Recommendation as well as my own inclination obliged me to give the preference As soon as M[r] Young's growing indisposition deprived us of all hopes of his Recovery I made the proposal to M[r] Calvert of succeeding him, not imagining He would have been at all averse to dividing the Office w[th] M[r] Steuart who on account of the other Iudges incapacity to attend has hitherto Transacted the whole Business for the consideration of one Third of the Income. Such an increase of his Profits in the Land Office I thought would be some reward for his faithfull Services & make him readily resign a Place which He has enjoyed in the Paper Currency Office of 80£ p Ann. With which I intended to make some Provision for M[r] Young's Son whose name your Ldp was pleased to insert among those Gent[n] who are favored with a particular Recommendation, but
p. 20 my hopes of serving more than one of your Ldp's Friends at this time were frustrated by M[r] Calverts refusing to accept the Office on any such terms as I proposed, which made me decline taking any Step in this affair & to avoid all possibility of giving offence have ordered M[r] Steuart to attend the Duty of the Office as He did during M[r] Young's Life till I can learn your Ldp's pleasure for the disposal of a place of so great Trust & Importance.

Y[r] Ldp will do me the honour to pay my best Respects to Her Ladsp. & to beleive me y[r] Ldp m̄o devoted & m̄o obed[t] hble Serv[t]

H. S.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

10[th] of Feb[y] 1754. transmitted by Capt: Etherington

Sir

To prevent any ill consequence that might be occasioned by the miscarriage of some Letters to you dated in Dec[r] I have

taken this opportunity of transmitting Copies of them as also Letter Bk. I.
of a Proclamation issued by the Order of the late Ld Proprietary
which the Gent[n] of the Council thought it might be proper to
submit to His Ldp's perusal & wait his answer before obedience
to Col[o] Lloyd's Instruction for requiring an Alienation Fine
upon every Devise be insisted on if His Ldp should be pleased
to confirm that Instruction of Col[o] Lloyd's perhaps you will not
think it improper to defer putting it in Execution for a year or p. 21
two till we can get the fees arising from Innholder Licences
(which amount to a very considerable Sum annually) appro-
priated to the Proprietary's use. The impracticability of
advancing the Quit Rents to Ten Shillings a Hundred Acres
Col[o] Lloyd has so fully acquainted You with that I presume it
would be superfluous for me to enlarge on that Topick or on
the inconveniences that must follow a Refusal of Land to
those who will not oblige Themselves to settle a certain number
of Persons on it within a time specified, while Land in Virginia
can be procured on much easier Terms than it is in Maryland
at present granted. That the Proprietors of Pensilvania pro-
cure such an advanced Price for their Land as was mentioned
in His Ldp's Instructions I find has been owing to their per-
mitting the Germans who were prevailed on at the first Settle-
ment of that Province to import themselves continually in very
large numbers to settle on & cultivate what Land they pleased,
but as their possessions were not secured to Them by patent,
when considerable improvements had been made, in 1732 or
thereabouts the Proprietaries made the demand of about £9
S[g] Caution money & £4: 1[s] Quit Rent which rather than relin-
quish their cultivated Plantations, the Possessors submitted to
pay tho much disatisfied thereat; & that People will take up
Land in Pensilvania at so high a Rate at this time must be
accounted for from its being rendered much more valuable
than any in Maryland by the great Demand for its Produce p. 22
which is owing to the vast increase of Inhabitants as well as
the surprising Exportation from Philadelphia.

M[r] Taskers Reasons for having disposed of His Ldp's Land
at so low a Rate you will see in his Answer to a Lett[r] which in
pursuance of my Instructions I sent Him on that affair.

On consulting with the Gent[n] of the Council, whether it
would be proper to issue such Proclamation, as would prevent
the Possessors of Surplusage Lands contained in former Sur-
veys, procuring Grants of such Land, unless they would make
discovery of & take out Patent for the same within a certain
limitted time, I was advised to postpone it till His Ldp could
be informed that many Persons induced heretofore by similar
Proclamations after the elapse of such limitted time, made dis-
covery of Surplusage Lands, expecting one third of the Land

Letter Bk. I. so discovered according to the Conditions proposed in the Proclamation, but were disappointed by the Attorney General's (M^r^ Delany) being obliged to drop many Bills which He had filed in Chancery for the Recovery of such Surplusage; the Alienation of the Original Tract (w^ch^ was laid out by metes & Bounds & not by Course & Distance) in numerous Parcells, making it impossible to decree from which & in what manner the Surplusage should be taken; besides the People at present
p. 23 in many Counties appear so earnest in removing all possibility of Dispute about the Land they are in possession of that there seems no great need of a Proclamation to incite Them to apply for Warrants of Resurvey.

By the Constant Cultivation of Tobacco which in its nature impoverishes Land in an extraordinary degree His Ldp's Manours will receive great detriment if we cannot fall on some method to prevent it by inserting in the Leases some penal Clause whereby the Tenants may be restrained to planting only a certain number of Acres the three last years of their Term, unless they will renew their Lease so long before its expiration but as I am forbid by my Instructions to set the Manours for a longer Term than 21 years I could not propose putting any thing of this Sort in execution till I shall be favoured with His Ldp's farther Commands.

The Laws passed last Session are yet in the Press. but I have sent Copies of the journals of both Houses & of two Bills which the Lower House had prepared, but referred to the Consideration of next Session, when I beleive they will be pushed with some Earnestness. that for the Regulation of the Clergy was occasioned by the scandalous Behaviour of some of that Rank, over whom His Ldp may think proper to exert his Authority, lest the Example of their Lives should lessen the
p. 24 influence of the whole Order; at this time one Parson Cook after escaping with great difficulty the fate of a Murtherer receives as punctually his 30 p^r^ Poll in Prison as if he was duly attending the Duty of his function, such Instances as this I shall endeavour to prevent for the future by taking Bonds for good Behaviour from the Clergy before Presentation—in that other Bill "for preventing the farther growth of Popery" I am persuaded many things will appear to you somewhat extravagant; but I should be glad to receive your Advice what notice I might take of a more moderate Bill if offered respecting Persons of that profession.

A Lett^r^ from the Lords of Trade commanding us as well as the neighbouring Colonies to send Commissioners to a Treaty with the Indians at Albany this Summer had occasioned my summoning the Assembly in May, to grant the Commiss^s^ an Allowance for their Expences and a present for those Indian

Allies; but on the receipt of a Letter from the Gov^{r} of Virginia Letter Bk. I.
which you have inclosed by the Advice of the Council I have
issued Proclamation for them to meet the 25th Inst.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

S^{r}

as time would only permit me in my last to acknowledge
the receipt of your favour of the 29th of August I take this p. 25
opportunity of returning my hearty thanks for your kind Ex-
pressions to me & of assuring you that I shall always receive
the greatest pleasure in paying the most strict obedience when-
ever I am honoured with Yours or His Ldp's Commands
The Rent Rolls are prepareing as expeditiously as possible &
I have desired M^{r} Tasker to send me the Persons concerned
in stating the Case concerning the disputed Boundaries after
I can get the Evidences authenticated I will transmit them by
the first opportunity.

I have writ to His Ldp to acquaint him with the Decease of
M^{r} Young one of the Iudges of the Land Office, whom I
thought M^{r} Calvert would have no objection to succeed & to
divide the Profits of the Office wth M^{r} Steuart, who by what I
can learn has been truly faithful in the Execution of his Duty,
& would have enabled me by resigning a Place which he holds
in the Paper Currency Office, to make some provision for M^{r}
Young's Son, whom at M^{r} Speakers Request His Ldp was
pleased to recommend: M^{r} Calverts refusal of submitting to
any such Division, has made me decline nominating any Person
in M^{r} Young's room till I can learn His Ldp's & your pleasure
concerning this Affair.

I have Inclosed a Bill of Exchange 100$^{£}$ for your use & £25 p. 26
which I procured according to y^{r} Desire.

You will please to give me Instructions for the Disposal of
the Money arising in the Land Office during the Vacancy.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Lower House Journal, 1750–54

Williamsburg ffebruary 23^{d} 1754

Sir

I Received the Favour of Your Letter of the 10th Curr^{t} and
observe your Assembly were to meet the 25th and hope they
Will chearfully aid the Intended Expedition against the Enemies
of our Country.

I prorogued our Assembly this Day they have given 10,000£
this money for the Support of his Majesty's Right to the Lands
on the Ohio in Consequence thereof I design immediatly to
raise ffive or Six Companies of men to march to Will's Creek

Lower House Journal, 1750–54

With all prudent Expedition, but I dread their being there so soon as I formerly Wrote you, but I hope they Will be Early in April and should be Glad Your Forces could be there at the Same Time.

I have Wrote to the Cherokees and Catawbas Nations of Indians to the Southw[d] of this, Who some months ago offered a Body of a 1000 of their Warriors to go to the Ohio. I have by Express ordered their Marching to the Ohio to defend their Hunting Grounds and that they should be Supported by Forces from this which if they Comply with, I am in hopes we shall make some Figure there.

I have Thirty Cannon from the Crown, Ten whereof I have ordered out to be mounted on the ffort to be erected on the Ohio. In May next I shall proceed to Winchester to meet the Chiefs of Several Nations of Indians and to deliver them a present from his Majesty.

If I can be of any Service to you or the Colony (happy) under your Command, I shall chearfully Receive your Directions and am With great Sincerity

The Inclosed Proc[l] will be General to all the fforces.

your Excell[ys] most obedient H[ble] Serv[t]
Rob[t] Dinwiddie

Original.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London March 23[d] 1754

Dear Sir/

I have but time by the Bearer M[r] Iaque's to acknowledge the Arrival of your Letters, Papers, & the Addresses of Assembly &c. To all which you will receive Answers as soon as possible. The Deficiency of your Answer To the Earl of Holdernesse Secretary of State's Letter to you, inclosing none to My Lord nor me makes it awkard how to attend him; To amend which you must make a Return to the Secretary under a loose Seal to My Lord, in reference to His Majesty's Commands; Besides your Copy of Message in Consequence of the Secretary's Letter laid by you before the Lower House of Assembly having neither Date nor your Name to it, The Proprietor can't produce it—The last Paragraph in the Reply of the Lower House to your Message, Sign'd P. Hammond Speaker, Equivocaly denys the Law of 1704 i. e. The 12[d] ꝑ Hogshead for the Support of Government, yet offers at a Deduction of three pence ꝑ Hogshead out of the 12[d] for Arms & Ammunition, no ways warranted by the Tenor of the Law of 1704; But under frivolous Pretence that of Queen Anne's, which bears no proportion now, the Tobacco Hogshead greatly exceeding in Gauge at this time, than at the time when Her

Majesty's Instruction was Sent; The extravagant Bulge of the Hogshead has greatly lessen'd the Number of Hogsheads and thereby Diminished the Support of Government; And The Lower House was so Sensible of this Reduction of the number of Tobacco Hogsheads, that at a Sessions of Assembly held the 28th of May 1717 It was Enacted in an Act "ascertaining the Gauge & Tare of Tobacco Hogsheads."

Section 8th viz^{t} Fifteen pence per Hogshead instead of Twelve pence. And the Proviso for Application was Twelve pence to the Lord Proprietor for the Support of Government, & the remaining Three pence, for the purchasing Arms & Ammunition, for the better Defence of the Province &c. The Act of 1704 I have Exemplify'd to you in mine of the 5th of January last. This Act belonging to the Crown, therefore to the Proprietor; they are sensible a Tryal here to destroy it would not avail before the King. Their Doctrine mention'd in their Address to you, how feeble is the Sense of the House, viz^{t} That the abovemention'd Act could not continue longer than during the time the Government of this Province was in the Crown. The Act was Enacted a Perpetuity To the Crown's Heirs and Successors.—Therefore To the Proprietors of Maryland, the Crown's Hereditary Governors of the Province, In Possession by the Approbation of the Crown, & to whom the Crown has Delegated all its Powers.—Therefore the Act is out of the Assembly's Reach.—But under a seeming spacious Pretence they now try to purloin Threepence out of the Twelve pence p Hogshead for Support of Government, so by Additional Reduction to the Loss from the increase of the Diameter of the Hogshead, they think Craft may prevail to really impoverish the Support of Government; for that's the Aim.—However you are too sensible & the Upper House, as not to support the Crown's & Proprietor's Dignity against Loss by Leveller's Principals.

The Lord Proprietor has Accepted your Recommendation of M^{r} Dulany to be jointly in Commission with M^{r} Tasker as Commissary General. You'l receive it by Instruction.

My Lord's uneasyness on Account of no Return of his Rent Rolls, obliges me to mention as I have often done, the Return of them & of which I hope it will not be long, and that you will take Care that they be truly & fairly at Large compiled in Books well Supported in Law, properly Authenticated from His Offices from the dates of Patents Register'd as to all Land-Holders, Attested by the Offices Seals, Deliver'd under Oath subscribed by the Officers in Office, & attested by good & sufficient witnesses.

M^{r} Pelham Chancellor of the Exchequer & first Commis-

sioner of the Treasury is Dead, he is regarded a Loss. The Duke of Newcastle succeeds him at the Treasury, his Station in the House of Commons & other office as yet no appointment, 'tis thought Difficult who to say.—In your answer to the Earl of Holdernesse the first Paragraph of the Lower House's Address to you in Answer to your Message occasion'd by His Lordship's Letter; Is thought here will be sufficient.

Yours sincerely
Cæcil[s] Calvert.

Post.

Phil[m] Young of Calvert County has applied to me for Preferment in MaryL[d] I am totaly unacquaint'd with him I told him I shou[d] write to you leaving all favour in relation to him to your directions and Iudgement, he says the Lord promised him Service. The Surveyor's on making my Lord Surveys of Mannor Lands you must take care how they do them otherways they will be sadly executed they shou[d] be all of a size Large & Book'd with the Particularys relating to the premises fairly & with Accuracy incerted in the Plan this I hope you'l order into excecution with[t] Delay as it will well please my Lord the return of them.

Original.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Virg[a] Mar. 25[th] 1754.

S[r]

Yours of the 11[th] Curr[t] I duely rec[d] & am heartily sorry y[r] Assembly will not assist with Forces to repell the unjustifiable Encroachments of the French. I am oblig'd by His Majestys Com̄ds to endeavour the building of two Forts on the Ohio, but I fear the small Force rais'd here will not be sufficient.

The President of North Carolina writes me that their Assembly have voted £12,000 Proclam[a] Money, & that they are enlisting Men accordingly, & thinke they will raise 750—The Gov[r] of Pensylv[a] thinks he will be able to prevail with the Assembly to grant a handsom Supply, their House are to sit down the second of next Month.

I have rais'd 300 Men, which, with a Comp[a] under Cap[t] Trent's com[d] now at the Ohio, is all I can propose to raise from the small Sum given by our Assembly, but I doubt not they will increase the sum hereafter.—I am thorowly convinc'd of your assiduous endeavours with your People; but there is no resisting an ill-founded Prejudice; if they wou'd look forward & Consider the dismal Consequences that must follow the Settlem[t] of the French so near our Frontiers, they certainly wou'd chearfully assist with a proper Supply; as it's easier to prevent their settling, than dislodge them when settled; besides

they ought to shew themselves good Subjects, in complying with His Majesty's Comands for a mutual Supply. As the Dignity of the Crown His Majesty's just Right to these Lands, & the Safety of all the Colonies much depends on this Expedition.

But you or I, can do no more than press the Necessity thereof, which I am convinc'd you have done in the strongest Manner

I remain with very sincere Respect
Y^r^ Excellency's
Most Obed^t^ hble Serv^t^
Rob^t^ Dinwiddie

Gov^r^ Sharpe.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

S^r^ Williamsburg Apr. 10^th^ 1754.

Enclos'd I send you a Letter that came under my cover from M^r^ Glen Governor of S° Carolina.

That Gentleman proposes to me, a Meeting of all the Governors on the Continent at Virginia, the Middle of Iune next, to adjust a Quota of each Colony to be employ'd on the present Expedition to the Ohio. I do not know what Influence he may have on his Assembly, but I am sure the Assembly of this Dominion wou'd not be directed what Supplies to grant, & will always be guided by their own free Determinations; & wou'd think it an Insult on their Preveledges that they are so very fond of, to be under any restraint or Direction.

What he proposes might have been very necessary some Time ago to represent Home the Situation & Circumstances of each Colony, with their opinion on the Insults & Invasions of the French; but this by no means can be a proper Time, when they are daily expected down the Ohio River, & no Time is to be lost in building the Fort, agreeable to His Majesty's Comands to me.

Add thereto the Gov^r^ of N York's meeting the Six Nations at Albany the 10^th^ June; & my Appointm^t^ & to meet the Northern & Southern Indians at Winchest^r^ the 20^th^ of next M°. wherefore I think his Proposal to meet here with the other Governors in June, is at this Time impracticable; & am of opinion the Governors to the Northward wou'd not agree to so long a Iourney, particularly from N: England.

The object I have in my Eye is building the Fort. Cap^t^ Trent has the Comand of Seventy or Eighty Men on the Spot, at the Forks of Monongehela, & a Detachment of 150 Men are march'd, a Week ago, from Alexandria to join him; & another Detachment of the same Number will march from thence the Beginning of next Week to support them.

The Independent Companies from S° Carolina I expect this Week, whom I shall send up to Alexandria imediately to follow the others; & I very soon expect two other Companies from N York, & have great Dependence on a Supply from Pensylvania, which, when met in a Body, I hope with the Assistance of our friendly Indians, will enable me to comply with His Majesty's Comands, & make a proper Head against the French.

I shall be very glad of Your Advice & Opinion on the Whole, & I beg Leave to assure you that

I am
Y^r^ Excell^s^
most Obed^t^ & hble Serv^t^
Rob^t^ Dinwiddie

P: S: Our General Court is just going to meet which puts me in a great Hurry.

Gov^r^ Sharpe

Original.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London April 17^th^ 1754.

Dear Sir

By His Lordship's Instructions inclosed you have His answers as to the Material Parts of yours of the 29^th^ of November, the 10^th^ and 26^th^ of December last; with His answers to the several Publick Papers.

The Maryland Gazette in which is recited the Acts of Assembly, November the 22^d^ bears date about the time the Sessions of Assembly Ended, began on the 2^d^ of October last. The Transmission of the Laws of the Assembly, no Arrival of them is surprizing. It being almost now five months since the Close of the Assembly. I therefore cannot write certain in relation to the Laws, they not having My Lord's Consideration. I shall only make some Cursory Remarks on two Laws, the Merchants here as represented to Them by their Correspondents think prejudicial; And if true may Endanger the Proprietor's Dissents. Viz^t^

A Supplementary Act to the Act Entituled, An Act for the Relief of Creditors in England against Bankrupts, who have imported any Goods into this Province, not accounted for.

I am inform'd the merchants in a Body intend to Petition the Proprietor against the Supplementary Act. Aledging that upon a Bankrupt Person in Maryland his Creditors here are not to have Benefit of any of his Effects in Maryland, But from an Over-plus after the Creditors are fully paid in the Province. This the Merchants say is very alarming and will stop their

Giving Credit to Persons resident in the Province, And say the Act is repugnant to the Law of England, As by the Law here The Assignees under the Statute of Bankrupcy are obliged to divide the Effects of a Bankrupt between all Creditors Equally.

I find at a Session of Assembly the 26th of April 1715, An Act, For the Better administration of Iustice in Testamentary Affairs &c. Section 20th Tis Enacted That from and after Publication hereof, no Person or Persons being Executors or Administrators, of any Person Deceased within this Province, shall be liable to pay Debts contracted out of the Province.—before Debts due within this Province and is Crown Law the first of George the First.—This carrys a Salvo Ius to the Province it Self and seems sufficient as not to Bar further Equaly in Law just Debts due out of the Province, as such Debts by Bankrupcy are mostly Contracted by Credit on Trade.

The second Law said to be Enacted is, An Act—For the Encreasing the Value of Gold and Silver, greatly in Diminution to the Paper Currency.

I find in 1734, a Law was Enacted in Maryland, to Emit £90,000 in Bills of Credit, which should pass as Current money, and the said Currency should be equal in all Payments to Gold and Silver; as by Proclamation of Queen Anne, which was That £133. 6. 8 Currency should be equal to £100 Sterling. By this Law a Pistole was worth £1. 3. 10 Currency, and a Peice of Eight £0. 6. 0. Currency. The Paper Money was not so well received as at first Expected, it sunk so much in its Value that £230 Paper Currency would only purchase £100 sterling. As soon as People saw and were convinced of the Goodness of the Fund for Payment of this money at the Expiration of the time limited, and on Payment of one third part of it being Actually (as I am inform'd) made, it came more and more into Esteem, So that last year £150 Paper Currency was equal to £100 Sterling, and that was the Current Exchange. At the last meeting of the Assembly 1753 An Act is said to have passed, That a Pistole should pass for £1. 7. 0 Paper Currency the Value of which is £0. 16. 6 Sterling, and a Peice of Eight for £0. 7. 6 Currency the Value of which is 4s/8 Sterling in the Province. This depreciates the Paper Money from the Value it was passing by £16. 6. 8 or thereabouts on 150lb as you will see from making the Gold and Silver pass for more Currency now than it would before this Act passed; And prevents the Currency from encreasing in its Value; which must have done every year until £133. 6. 8 of Paper Currency was equal to £100 Sterling: For every Person who has it in their Possession at the time limited will receive Sterling money for it after that rate; And this shows the great Inconsistency between this Law and that made in 1734.

N. B. Before the late Law £150 Currency bought £100 Sterling and by the Increasing the value of Gold and Silver it will take £166. 6. 8 Currency to buy £100 Sterling; If these things are so, They must Damage the Province Considerably. Viz^{t}

The Act of Bankrupcy as to Credit here. The Act—For a Pistole and Peice of Eight to pass Value Encreased in prevention of Encrease in Value to the Paper Money. The Consequence must be, the latter will be purchased up by Crafty Money Jobbers in Pensilvania at Profit more than £133. ℔ Cent Sterling Gain. And at the same time, the Encreasing Act for the Gold and Silver is in the Face and Violation of An Act of Parliament the 6th of Queen Anne—which Act has not only ascertain'd Foreign Coin throughout the Plantations under Severe Penalties—But also doth Declare any further Regulation therein to be in the Crown.

I am concern'd to understand from you, that the Journal of Accounts did not pass on Account of the Allowance due to the Council.

I find in the Proceedings and Debates of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly in Maryland in 1722. 1723. and 1724. October the 5th 1723 On a motion made from the Committee of Accounts relating to the Allowances to be made to Councillors out of Assembly time, Viz^{t} First. A Messuage from the Upper House about Councillors Allowances—wherein The usual Allowances for Attendance as a Council of State being denyed (by the Lower House) The Upper House Desired to know why they Denyed Them such Reasonable and Customary Allowances. The Lower House answer'd—They find by the Act in 1670–1, Two shillings per Hogshead was raised the then Lord Proprietor to defray the Expences of Government and his Quit Rents &c. That in 1674 and 1678 was raised the same Duty for the same uses. That in 1717 one shilling per Hogshead was raised to maintain the Dignity of His Lordship's Lieutenant Governor. Thereupon they concluded of opinion, that as the Council are a part of the Government chosen by His Lordship, he is to pay them out of the one shilling per Hogshead. The answer from the Upper House was—That the Country since 1670–1 and in all Probability before, Supported the Council of State—Either by raising an Impost for that purpose or by Assessment upon the Inhabitants; which was by Impost until the King assumed the Government, Then the Legislature Assess'd the Inhabitants, and so continued during the Government of the Crown. When the Proprietary Government was Restored they still assess'd the Inhabitants for the Support of the Council. The Case being so: If you doubt, we desire a Conference—That we

may Evince the Truth of them. Whereupon a Conference was Resolved and Appointed By Both Houses. But the Report Not agreed on—on The 3^{d} Message By the Upper House October the 18th 1723 about Councillors Allowances to the Lower House—They observed, that the Resolution of the Lower House was, Not to make any such allowances. Whereupon they observed to the Lower House their mention of the Law in 1670–1 for Laying a Duty of Two shillings per Hogshead on Tobacco exported out of this Province, one shilling whereof was given to His Lordship for the Support of Government and for allowing Convenient Salaries to His Privy Council, which was again continued in 1674 & 1678 for the same Uses. From whence you inferr'd That the one shilling per Hogshead in 1717 ought to be applyed to the same uses as in 1670–1—Concluding His Lordship is obliged to maintain His Council out of the aforesaid one shilling per Hogshead. The state of the Case—The Law in 1670–1 first raised the one shilling per Hogshead, payable to the Lord Proprietary, for the Support of Government, and for Payment of the Salaries to the Council, and for maintaining a magazine in the Province: Which Law stood continued from Time to Time till 1692—when the Government was under the Administration of the Crown, and then a Law was made for raising Fourteen pence per Ton, on all Ships or Vessels trading within the Province, out of which a standing Salary of Thirty Pounds per Annum was to be allowed to all such Councillors as did not hold any Places of Profit in the Government; And likewise another Law for raising the one shilling per Hogshead aforesaid, and applying to other uses in Government. For it could not be Supposed that any part of it was intended for the support of the Council when they were provided for by another Law; But upon making of the Law for applying the Fourteen Pence per Ton toward the support of the Council, and for Defraying other Charges in Government, My Lord Proprietary, who knew he had a Right to the Fourteen Pence per Ton by His Prerogative, Applyed himself to the King and Council in England, and procured an order to have the Fourteen Pence per Ton, restored to Him again, and Has ever since received it to His own proper use, by which means the Council became destitute of any Allowance, the one shilling per Hogshead being applyed another way as has been before observed, Upon this, the Legislature took their Case in Consideration, and made them an Allowance in the Publick Levy, which has been done annually for above Thirty years past, And the one shilling per Hogshead was Annually applyed to other uses in Government, according to the Directions in the Law made in 1692 aforesaid and other Laws to the same purpose, until 1715 after the Gov-

ernment was again Restored to the Lord Proprietary; in which year an Act of Assembly was again made, which advanced the aforesaid one shilling per Hogshead, to Fifteen pence per Hogshead, Three pence of it to be applyed towards the Support of a Magazine, and the other Twelve pence to the then Governor for his own proper use.

The one shilling per Hogshead for support of Government was directed to be paid to His Lordship, for the Support of His Governor, and for such other uses towards the Support of Government as His Lordship in His Discretion should think meet to apply the same which was accordingly Re-Enacted in 1717.

In mine of Ianuary the 5th I observed to you That the aforesaid Law of 1692, was by the Terms a Perpetual Law. That King William Dissented to the Law 1699 for the support of Government. Notwithstanding which, the Act of 1692 as it continued in Force before 1699—The Support of Government was raised until the Perpetual Law of 1704 was made in Col Seymour's time, by which Law, the present Support of Government is raised, and has been ever since the Act of 1717 Ceased. The latter Act being only Temporary and made as was found necessary during its Continuance, to raise Three pence per Hogshead as a Composition for His Lordship's Rents and Alienation Fines, But that Composition ceasing in September 1733. The Assembly held in 1734 made an Act to Raise the Three pence per Hogshead, well satisfied the Act of 1704 was in Force effectually for the Support of Goverment.

The Question on the Case as it stands is, whether the Council can justly claim any part of the aforesaid one shilling per Hogshead, for as the Law of 1692 Repealed all the former Laws for Raising the one shilling per Hogshead and applied it to other uses, exclusive of any Support of the Council, who were then provided for by another Law as aforesaid, and have been since. And the Law of 1704 which Repealed all former Laws, and is a Perpetual Law still unrepealed, by which the Support of Government is now Raised for such uses in the Government as His Lordship thinks meet, without mentioning or having any regard to the Council; The Lord Proprietor cannot be supposed to have any knowledge, that the Upper House of Assembly, at the time of making the aforesaid Laws, intended the Council should be supported out of the aforesaid one shilling per Hogshead, which His Lordship has a Right to apply to such uses of Government as He pleases. This being the Truth of the Case 'tis certain the Upper House cannot receed their Allowances to the Lower House—unless under such Consideration as My Lord's Instructions herewith Recommends.

I have wrote to Mr Lloyd and inclosed him My Lord's further Instructions concerning His Private Affairs, your Consultations with him thereon, and carrying into Execution the advancement of His Lordship's Property, and returning such Testimonials of Benefit to Him will be grateful; and of which in you He trusts there will be no Delay, and that you will forward all others concerned.

By Lord Fairfax's Letter to you, his Lordship Declines having to Do with any Re-Settlement of the Course of Potomack River. The Branch called the South Branch which you seem to apprehend will be much more Beneficial to Maryland, as in Length South Westward, will depend on Proof, as it's Fountain Head instead of the Spring Head of the said River, determined by the Virginia Commissioners in 1736 and 1737. If the South Branch runs as you apprehend, it will certainly be of great Advantage to the Encrease of Maryland, and also may be to Lord Fairfax's Tract of Land by the Spring head of Potomack lying more Westward than the Determin'd Head of Potomack as above settled.

However you ought before you make an Attempt, to be well Grounded How the Inclinations of the Governor, the Virginians and Lord Fairfax Stand, to a New Settlement of the Course and Fountain of Potomack with Maryland. If they oppose, the Crown is most likely will side with Them. The Tryal of the South Branch of Potomack as to it's advantages as may turn out, His Lordship is not against Mr Cressap's Essay therein; Provided he does not bring upon Him too great Cost thereby, of which, if you find it absolutely necessary to send him; you must Bargain with him Reasonably.

Mr Evans's Abstract of his Treatise is hardly worth notice. He says, "concerning what was gained or lost by the Proprietaries, if the Articles of Agreement take Place."

"The Messieurs Penn and my Lord Baltimore, when they executed the Articles, considered the South Boundarys of Pensilvania by the Patent to be in the lat. 39° and if the Articles are to stand, they must be Construed Accordingly"

In answer thereto, By the Articles Executed by the late Lord Baltimore and the Messieurs Penns, It doth under no Consideration appear or is Suggested, The Pensilvania Patent to be in the Lat 39° As to the three Lower Counties call'd Delaware, 'tis admitted in the Pleadings of the Cause, that the Duke of York had no Right to transfer to Penns; and it was also admitted the Deeds of Feoffment Grant by the Duke of York to the Penns were not Valid, by reason no Proof was produced of the Crown's confirming the same. It was urged orders had been Given for Issuing out Warrants for the Establishing the said Grants, but admitted in the Cause the same

warrants were not Confirm'd By Charles the 2d nor James the 2d Entre Nous, I understand Mr Evans is a man of no good Character, and has been a time Serving man to the Messieurs Penns. The Map from whence the Articles of Agreement with the Late Lord and Messieurs Penns was by Artificial means imposed on the Late Governor and sent by him to the late Lord, the Product of much Uneasyness to the present Proprietor. Therefore for the future My Lord will not Submit to pay any Charges, but such as are of real Service to Him.

As to Mr Goldsborough succeeding as one of the Council of State, you may be under no Apprehensions about him. His Lordship has not fill'd up the Vacancy in the Council; by reason as yet He is not Satisfyed of a Proper Person: As to Mr Dulany he has no Objection, but at present thinks he may be of Service in the Lower House of Assembly; you must think of another proper Person to fill up the Council.

The Church Preferment mentioned Vacant by you in yours of the 10th of December, you have My Lord's Instructions for Presentment To Mr McFearson of one of the Livings value of Thirty thousand Pounds of Tobacco, as by your Desire. That of Mr Thornton's in Queen Anne's County, one Mr Rosse from hence, will bring you His Lordship's Instructions for Induction therein. you must be more particular on vacancy of Livings, distinguishing by name of the Parishes. His Lordship desires you'l send him a List of the Clergy, their names, Parishes and County, with Amount of Taxables and Value in Pounds of Tobacco. Also a List of all Persons in Employments, their Employ, and worth of Each as near as you can Learn.

The Lower House Address of the 16th of November 1753, In Answer to your Messuage; On the particular in Charge from his Majesty, contained in the Earl of Holderness's Letter Augt the 28th 1753, by you laid before Them. Their Answer by People here is thought Equivocal, by an attempt of Assessment on His Majesty's & the Proprietor's Law of 1704. The Support of Goverment

I am wishing you all Happiness
Your's truly
Cæcils Calvert

Post

'tis unlikely that Mr Tasker may have offered Mr Dulany since he wrote to have him jointly with him in the Commissy so smal a recompence, that the other may refuse acceptance, tho' he has wrote here desireing jointly to be in the office with Mr Tasker, if he shoud refuse & will not accept, wh I hope will not be the Case, if he does, My Lord will suppose it a finess between Them, to prevent the office being held by Two Persons & you must on his non acceptance immediately put

another Lawyer in jointly with Mr Tasker, who most certainly is not fit to hold the Office singly. Your Brother Mr Iohn Sharpe is return'd a Member for this Parliamt Yr Brother Willm is gone to Bath, he has been much out of Order this Winter. Affairs here are Quiet; His Grace of New Castle under God's Vicegerent sole Disposer of all Things. His Majesty in Good Health at Kensington.

I shosd be much oblige to you for paymt to me half yearly on yr Corespondent in London for I having hardly any income to subsist upon But what I earn. I Desire you will obtain the same for me of Mr Tasker & Mr Dulany Mr Tasker's way of paymt as to time does not suit me. You must do for Mr Graham My Lord desiers me to remember you of him. My service to Mr Ross I've recd his, with the Copy of Bill enclosed. I desire he will surrender up to Mr Lloyd my Letter to Mr Tasker dated the 15th of May 1752.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Virga 1st May 1754.

Sir

Your favo of 25th Apr. I recd last Night. I am very glad You agree with me in opinion, in regard to Govr Glen's Proposal; as I am convinced, if a Govr of this Dominion shou'd direct the Assembly either in regard to raising Men or Money, wou'd be the infallable way of being disappointed of both, for they depend greatly on their own Notions and Judgements. Yr Letter to that Gentn shall be duely forwarded; & I shall at all Times be ready to concur with the Govrs on this Continent, in any reasonable Scheme for His Majesty's Service, & that of these Colonies. Mr De Lancey has wrote me to the same Purpose he wrote you; however Eligible his Proposal may be, we can do Nothing this Year, as my whole Attention is on the Ohio Expedition, & I agree with you that a General Plan wou'd be more proper to be laid before an Assembly; as I think the different Colonies are too much confin'd to their seperate Interests, without considering Themselves Subjects to one Prince.

I wish you may succeed with Your Assembly for a Supply, as it appears to me monsterous, that from the many Informats we have of the French Intentions, that any British Colony shou'd hesitate in granting a mutual Assistance against the comon Enemy, on this present Exigency of our Affairs.

You may be assur'd it gives me great Pleasure & Satisfaction that the Plan of my opperations on this Expedition meets with Your Approbation. If our Assembly had voted the sum they have now given, on my Aplication to them in Novr I am

pretty fully convinc'd the Fort wou'd have been built before this Time; however must look forward & do the best we can; when the three Independ[t] Companies arrive, I think we shall have near 1000 Men, tho' that's much short of what the French threaten us with.

The Plan of the Fort is not yet drawn, as the Ground is not fully fix'd on, being left with discretional Power to the Engeneer, when done shall send you a Copy of it. I have from an old Book of Laws, sent you enclos'd a Copy of one relating to the King's Lands; but no report of the Surveyor thereon, if any, I fear it was destroy'd when our Capitol was burned. Lord Howard was not Gov[r] here till 1680 if that, or any Thing else from this, will be of use to you, I shall be glad to serve you, & be assur'd I remain with great regard

Y[r] Excell[s]
most obed[t] hble Serv[t]
Rob[t] Dinwiddie

P. S. I shall set out for Winchester about the 12[th] of this M°

Gov[r] Sharpe.

Letter Bk. I. p. 26

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

the second of May 1754.

My Lord

In obedience to your Ldps Instructions I have transmitted Copies of all the Laws made at a Session of Assembly begun & held at Annapolis in this Province the 2[d] of Oct[r] 1753 & have fulfilled your Lordsp's pleasure by inclosing therewith a few Observations for the more easy reference to any thing new or of an extraordinary nature by any of them enacted. Such a Bill as your Lordship was pleased to recommend in your Instructions for the Naturalization of German Protestants importing themselves into this Province was brought into the Lower House of Assembly in the Oct[r] Session but did not pass through, however these people suffer no great Inconveniences from the want of such a Law, as there is an Act of Parliament in force in England naturalizing all such Foreigners after a few years Residence in any of His Majesty's Plantations. Advising with your Lordship's Agent & Judge of the Land Office about having parcells of Land surveyed in the several Counties & erected into Mannours I was informed that there is not remaining a Tract of Land (unless one in the Lower part of the Eastern Shore that I have a prospect of Discovering & the
p. 27 Barrens) extensive enough to answer that purpose in any part of the province, except in Frederick County near the Frontiers,

& there are two mannours surveyed & reserved in that County already; if I should by any enquiries get knowledge of Vacancy which will answer that End, or Land contiguous fit to be added to the Mannours already laid out & erected, I will punctually obey your Lordships Instructions. Your Ldp's Expectations of having what Land remains vacant in the more populous parts of the Country sold off at more advanced prices, cannot I am afraid, be answered as much as I wish; The Method always followed here of locating Land Warrants by selecting the most rich & fertil Land without regarding any regularity of its Area, or making one of its Courses coincide with the Boundary of the adjacent prior patented Tract, has left the Land hitherto remaining Vacant & uncultivated, in such irregular small & incommodious parcells that it is thought scarcely worth any ones While but those on whose possessions it joins, to take it up even at the common Rate I observed in a Letter to your Ldp's Secretary soon after my Arrival that in some of the Counties there is supposed to be a considerable number of Acres, for which your Ldp receives no Rent. This (except the parcells just mentioned & some very poor Land not taken up) comes under the Denomination of Surplus or cultivated Vacancy; for the more easy discovery of which I at that time submitted to your Ldp's Consideration, whether it would not be an adviseable Step to survey one or two of the smaller Counties where there appears the greatest Disproportion between the Rents paid your Ldp & the quantity of Land cultivated & possessed however the Occupiers are frequently making Re- p. 28 surveys & taking up the vacant cultivated Land, for which is paid according to the Improvements made thereon, & as they can agree with the Agent to whom I have communicated my Instructions on this Head & desired He will comply as much as possible with your Ldp's pleasure thereby signified. Letter Bk. I.

I have taken this opportunity of transmitting a short History of Delaware River & the Dutch & Sweedish Settlements thereon before the Date of the Duke of York's Deed for the Three Lower Counties. The History I got compiled from some Extracts from the Records of New York, with hopes that it might obviate some Objections that have been advanced against your Ldp's Title to the Lands on that Bay & River

I have endeavoured as much as possible to acquaint myself with the Circumstances & Occasion of the Murder committed by Kittsmiller on the disputed Boundaries. The Identical Spot where the Fact was committed M^{r} Diggs insists & brings Evidence to support him was included within the Courses ran by the Surveyor when the Land was first taken up, but on having recourse to the Land Office whither all Land Warrants are after Execution returned & entered, it manifestly appears that

Letter Bk. I. that Spot is not included within the Bounds as is there platted & described, & Stevenson the Officer who first surveyed the Land, avers & contends that He never ran other Courses than were returned to the Land Office; This is all I can yet discover of the Affair; the Question at present is whether some Wittnesses that M^r^ Digges can produce will invalidate Stevenson's Testimony; turn that out as it may yet as the Pensilva-
p. 29 nians had procured a Copy of the Land platted from the Maryland Land Office & thereby ruled themselves in making Survey of the contiguous Land as lying in Pensilvania before His Majesty's order in Council; I apprehend we cannot proceed to bring the Murtherer to Justice in this province.

I was very uneasy at not being able to transmit the Rental Books more speedily, but have taken Care that the Agent has sent as many as were compleated by this same Conveyance, & hope the Rent Rolls for the remaining Counties will be prepared to transmit by a very early Opportunity; with the greatest alacrity & Satisfaction would I have complied with your Lordships Desire to have the plan delivered me for the Collection of the Quit Rents by the respective Sheriffs put immediately in Execution had it not been absolutely impracticable in the short time that intervened between my arrival & the Expiration of the term for which the former Receivers had engaged; Several of the Sheriffs in Office were not able to give sufficient security for the due & punctual payment of them to your Ldp's Agent, & to have displaced them at that time so suddenly would have been their entire Ruin, w^ch^ I was persuaded was far from your Ldp's Desire or Design. I have consented therefore to the farming your Ldp's Rents for the Term of two years & when that time is elapsed I will put that plan in Execution I hope entirely to your Ldp's Satisfaction.

I have herewith sent for your Ldp's information & satisfaction an exact State of the worth of the respective Ecclesiastical Benefices in the province at this time; your Ldp will see that the Divisions already made have reduced most of them to a very moderate Value. The misinformation that had been given me made me represent untruly the Income of some of those that are now vacant, which Error your Ldp will be hereby enabled to rectify: And as the Decease of M^r^ Cox in Queen
p. 30 Ann County has vacated a Parish something less in Value than that in Dorchester to which I recommended M^r^ Malcolm, I have taken the Liberty to favour M^r^ Malcolms later Request, by inducting him to S^t^ Paul's in Queen Ann County which being more compact, the Duty of it can be discharged with less fatigue to a person in years which is M^r^ Malcom's Case; & M^r^ Meyer according to your Ldp's Appointment succeeds him at Annapolis as the Income to the Rector of Annapolis is

scarcely by the Dearth of provisions Fireing & family necessa- Letter Bk. I.
ries, a decent subsistance for a Clergyman, I proposed had not your Ldp's pleasure been otherwise signified to have nominated a Reader for a year or two to officiate in the Church with some Assistance from the neighbouring Clergy, & permitted the Vestry to make a Reserve during that time of part of the 30 ℔ poll towards purchasing or building a House for the use of the Incumbent; which Article is an annual Charge at present to him of £20 & upwards, should such a proposal be still thought worthy your Ldps Approbation, I apprehend Mr Meyer would be grateful for a Removal to Dorchester County or to any Parish of equal or greater Value that might happen to become vacant. In acquainting the provincial Clergy with your Ldp's answer, I duly observed your Ldp's Directions & from the temper they shewed I am persuaded they will not give any room for uneasiness or Displeasure by any more such general meetings—Your Ldp's distinguishing marks of Favour to Mr Bacon & Mr Malcolm were delivered them the same Day who expressed a dutiful sense of & thankfulness for the honour p. 31
your Ldp had been pleased to confer on them which they intend to do themselves the honour of acknowledging by Letter to your Ldp.

The Trustees of the Charity School about to be established in Talbot County gratefully accept your Ldps proposals & are preparing a thankfull Address for the most kind Testimony of your Ldp's Approbation.—In a Letter dated the 10th of Decemr last I made favourable mention of Mr Danl Dulany as a person well qualified & proper to succeed his Father in the Council, & also if your Ldp should approve of the proposal to execute & enjoy jointly with Mr Tasker the Office of Commissary; A Letter that I have had the pleasure lately to receive from your Ldp's Secretary, affording me Room to expect your Ldps favourable hearing of such a Division, I acquainted Mr Dulany what Steps I had taken with respect to him in that Affair for which He acknowledged himself much obliged, but on the consideration that his acceptance of the Office tho on those Terms would oblige him to relinquish his practice as a Lawyer, whereby He must sustain a very considerable Loss He seemed to decline accepting it till he had considered of my proposal & talked with Mr Tasker thereon, the Result of which was, their Desiring me to request your Ldp to order the Commission solely to Mr Dulany as an equal favour conferred on both. For a Successor to Mr Young in your Ldp's Council of State I would beg leave to mention Mr Wm Goldsborough who has in the Capacity of Judge of Assize given general Satisfaction, or Mr James Tilghman; They are both much esteemed as Gentn of probity, Temper & good abilities.

Letter Bk. I. p. 32 I am sorry at being unable to put the Scheme your Ldp: was pleased to intimate for compleating the Governour's House in execution; for want of being covered the House is now reduced to so bad a State (the Timber work being mostly wasted & demolished) that less than £300 or £400. will not put it in the Condition it was left in by the workmen, & I apprehend to perfect it would require as many Thousand, so large a sum it is impracticable to raise by Lottery in these parts where it is with the greatest Difficulty that £100 or £200 can be raised by that method for executing any work of the most general Utility.

As the objection that many of the Lower House make to advancing a sum of Money for its Completion is, that they conceive the House is now become absolutely irreparable, I would engage (was that sufficient) to get a Subscription of £150—to shingle it, & by recovering it to its pristine appearance obviate that Objection, but as such a sum is much too trivial, unless your Ldp would be pleased to increase it; I must rest till a fair Occasion offers for pressing it to the Assembly; which I will endeavour to do in the most effectual manner, but cannot think of attempting it till after the Dissolution of this Assembly in November next, as the Incursions of the French on His Majesty's Dominions oblige me to push them on the disagreeable Business of granting money for that purpose at this time, & as it is too notorious that They always shew greater Backwardness in every last session to do any thing generous, lest it should induce their Electors to reject them when they offer themselves Candidates at the ensuing Election.

I met the Assembly the 25th of March upon the Business p. 33 that was mentioned in my Letter dated the 10th of Febr the Contents of which I hope e'er this your Ldp is acquainted with, but neither my utmost Efforts or the Example of the Virginians who had just then granted the Sum of £10,000 for that purpose could induce them to make the least Provision for the Encouragement of the Ohio Expedition.—That a Sum of Money should be given for Commissioners to be at the Interview proposed to be held with the Indians at Albany was pretty readily voted; but the Method proposed for raising it was such as could not be concurred with. The whole proceedings of the Session I have transmitted in the Journal of both Houses, & hope my Conduct with respect to that Affair will not appear to merit your Ldp's Disapprobation. The repeated Sollicitations of the neighbouring Governments who begin to be alarmed at the progress & at their summoning a Fort which the Virginians had built on their Frontiers to surrender have induced me to meet the Assembly of this Province again the 8th Inst. to procure if possible a more satisfactory answer to the Letter from the Lds of Trade as well as the Govr of Vir-

ginia's Requisition, which I am in some hopes, the laudable & Letter Bk. I.
generous Example of the several neighbouring Colonies will
prompt them to give. I shall have an early opportunity by a
Ship that will depart in 3 weeks or a Month to acquaint your
Ldp with the Event of our meeting, & my performance of some
particulars that were required by the last Letter I was favoured
with from your Ldp's Secretary. I have taken an Opportunity p. 34
since my arrival of visiting Baltimore which indeed has the
Appearance of the most increasing Town in the Province, tho
it scarcely answered the Opinion I had conceived of it: hardly
as yet rivaling Annapolis in number of Buildings or Inhabit-
ants; its Situation as to Pleasantness Air & Prospect is inferior
to that of Annapolis, but if one considers it with respect to
Trade, The extensive Country beyond it leaves no room for
Comparison; were a Few Gent^{n} of fortune to settle there &
encourage the Trade it might soon become a flourishing place
but while few beside the Germans (who are in general Masters
of small Fortunes) build & inhabit there I apprehend it cannot
make any considerable Figure. I am promised as soon as it
can be compleated by a Gent^{n} therein residing a plan of the
Town as it is begun & designed to be perfected, which I hope
to convey your Ldp with my farther Sentiments & a particular
Description of its Site & of the adjacent Country when I again
take the Liberty of assuring your Ldp how much I am your
Ldp's most devoted humble Serv^{t} H S.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

3^{d} of May 1754. transmitted by Capt: Coxen.

Sir

Had any Opportunity offered within this two Months I should
have sent you before Copies of all the Laws made at a Session
of Assembly begun & held at Annapolis the 2^{d} of Oct^{r} 1753
that Reference might be more easily had to any thing New or p. 35
extraordinary by them Enacted I have according to His Ldp's
pleasure now inclosed therewith a few Sheets containing Ob-
servations on several of them according to the Order in which
they follow each other in the Book covered with Marble paper.
Advising with His Ldp's Agent & the Judge of the Land
Office about having parcells of Land surveyed in the several
Counties & erected into Mannours I was informed that there
is not a Tract of Land unless one that I have a prospect of
discovering in the lower part of the Eastern Shore & the
Barrens extensive enough to answer that purpose in any part
of the Province except in Frederick County near the Frontiers
& there are two mannours surveyed & reserved in that County

Letter Bk. I. already. If I should by any inquiries get knowledge of Vacancy that will answer that End, or Land contiguous & fit to be added to the Mannours already laid out & erected I will punctually obey His Ldp's Instructions.—His Ldp's Expectations of having what Land remains vacant in the more populous parts of the Country sold off at more advanced Prices I am afraid cannot be answered as much as I wish: The method always followed here of Locating Land Warrants by selecting the most rich & fertil Spots without regarding any regularity of Area or making one of its Courses coincide with the Boundary of the adjacent prior patented Tract has left the Land that now remains vacant & uncultivated in such irregular small & incommodious Parcells that it is thought scarcely worth any ones while but those on whose possessions it joins to take it up even at the common Rate. I observed in a Letter soon after my Arrival that in some of the Counties there is supposed to be a considerable number of Acres for which His Ldp receives no Rent. This (except the parcells just mentioned & some very poor Land not taken up) comes under the Denomi-
p. 36 nation of Surplus or cultivated Vacancy for the more easy discovery of which I at that time submitted a proposal for surveying one or two of the smaller Counties where there appears the greatest Disproportion between the Rents paid His Ldp & the Quantity of Land cultivated & possessed, however the occupiers are frequently making Resurveys & taking up the Vacant cultivated Land for which is paid according to the Improvement made thereon & as they can agree with the Agent to whom I have communicated my Instructions on this Head & desired He will comply with his Ldp's pleasure thereby signified. To morrow or the next Day Col° Lloyd will be in Town & I will then in pursuance of His Ldp's last Instructions consult the several Gent[n] again & see whether it be impossible or not to make some Advance in His Ldp's Rents on Land that shall from this time be applied for & taken up. Since the £30. some time since I have advanced M[r] Evans £96. more most part thereof to defray the Expences attending his taking Extracts from the Records at New York relating to Delaware River & the Dutch & Sweedish Settlements thereon. I have sent the Extracts Authenticated together with the History of Delaware from thence compiled. Expecting this Performance would be more satisfactory than I apprehend it will now prove I was willing to embrace every opportunity that offered & circumstance that promised to clear up any Doubt concerning His Ldp's Title to the Lands disputed; & shall endeavour to shew myself vigilant by answering the several particulars relating to the Province & it's Boundaries that you were pleased to enjoin me to do by your last received favour bearing Date

the 5th of Janʸ. What I have ordered the Receiver to advance Mr Evans I propose with your Approbation to replace by the Income arising from the Naval Office of Pocomoke which is held & executed in Mr Chamberlaines name whom I have appointed Naval Officer at Oxford in Succession of Colo Lloyd who resigned. I have endeavoured as much as possible to acquaint myself with the Circumstances & Occasion of the Murder committed by Kittsmiller on the disputed Boundaries; Mr Digges & some Witnesses that He brings insist that the identical Spot on which the Fact was perpetrated was included within the Courses ran by the Surveyor when the Land was first taken up, but on having Recourse to the Land Office whither all Land Warrants are after Execution returned & entered it manifestly appears that that Spot is not included within the Bounds as they are there platted & described & Stevenson the Officer who first Surveyed the Land avers that he never ran other Courses than were returned to the Land Office. This is all I can yet discover of the Affair. The Question now in debate is whether some Wittnesses that Mr Digges is to produce will invalidate Stevensons Testimony: Turn that out as it may, yet as the Pensilvanians had procured a Copy of the Land platted from the Maryland Land Office & thereby governed themselves in making Survey of the contiguous Land as lying in Pensilvania before His Majesty's Order in Council; I apprehend we cannot proceed to bring the Murtherer to justice in this Province: in 1727 Digges obtained a warrant for 10,000 Acres, part of which Warrant was executed on 6822 Acres at this place, the other elsewhere; it is supposed that under the patent for this 6822 Acres Digges intended to possess & enjoy the whole 10,000 Acres at least as much Land as lay together worth having but afterwards finding the Pensilvanians had or were about to make Surveys on & deprive him of some of the Land on which he had made improvements or as he contends that having then first discovered the Error in the Surveyor's Return He in 1743 applied for a warrant of Resurvey from the Maryland Office to secure his improvements & add to his Tract as it was then entered in the Land Records 3679 Acres more. This warrant the Agent (not being acquainted with the Patentees intention to make an addition to His possessions of Land northward of the Temporary Line & having before given the Surveyor general orders not to make any Surveys beyond such Limits) without hesitation granted, & it was on this additional resurveyed Land that the Murder was committed—I was very uneasy at not being able to transmit the Rental Books more speedily but have taken care to have as many as were compleated sent by this same conveyance & hope the Rent Rolls for the remaining

Letter Bk. I. p. 37

p. 38

Letter Bk. I. Counties will be prepared to transmit by a very early opportunity. The plan you favoured me with for the Collection of the Quit Rents by the respective Sheriffs should have been immediately put in execution had it not been absolutely impracticable in the short time that intervened between my Arrival & the Expiration of the Term for which the former Receivers had engaged: Several of the Sheriffs in Office were not able to give sufficient security for the due & punctual payment of them to His Ldp's Agent & to have displaced them at that time so suddenly would very probably have been their entire Ruin which I was persuaded was far from yours or His Ldps desire or design. I have consented therefore to the farming all the Quit Rents (except in two Counties on the Eastern Shore for which no person could be prevailed on to engage) for the term of two years at 15 ℔ C^{t} which sets them on such a Footing as
p. 39 not to leave room for the Sheriffs to advance objections as might perhaps have been otherways done against farming & I promise myself that during this term His Ldp will receive more money for His Rents than He did before even from those Counties that were received for 10 ℔ C^{t} when this time is elapsed I will put that plan in execution I hope entirely to your Satisfaction.

I have herewith for your information & Satisfaction inclosed an exact State of the worth of the respective Ecclesiastical Benefices in the province at this time; you will observe that the Divisions already made have reduced most of them to a very moderate Value. The misinformation that had been given me made me represent untruly the Income of some of those that are now vacant, which Error you will be hereby enabled to rectify. A similar State of all the Civil Offices you shall receive soon after I can get it compleated which has been retarded a little by the impossibility of ascertaining immediately the Value of some of the Offices which have hardly yet been a year conferred on the Persons who at this time enjoy them.

I have removed M^{r} Malcolm to S^{t} Pauls in Queen Ann County the Honour done him by your kind mention of him He is highly sensible of; & to succeed him I have appointed M^{r} Meyer whom I should be glad to have liberty to present to a better Living for Reasons that I have submitted to his Ldp & which I hope will meet with your Approbation. M^{r} Dingle whose name I mentioned in some former Letters I have (on his being recommended by the Gent^{n} of the Parish in which He has officiated during his Residence in the province) Inducted to the Church on Kent Island, a Parish of very small Value. This has given me an opportunity of executing the Scheme you approved of for bringing the Clergy under some Restriction. If His Ldp approves of their being required before

Induction to sign such Bonds as I have inclosed Copies of, I will proceed as often as Occasions offer & hope it will effectually prevent for the future any Complainings against Lives & Examples of the Clergy. If I could obtain permission I would by some Removals of a few of the Order to Livings a little more considerable than those they now enjoy bring them under the like Regulation & prevent the possibility of their future immoral or vicious Conduct.—In a Letter dated the 10th of Decemr last I made favourable mention of Mr Danl Dulany as a Person well qualified & very proper to succeed his Father in the Council & also if it should be so approved of to execute & enjoy jointly with Mr Tasker the Office of Commissary. Your Letter bearing Date the 5th of Jany that I have had the pleasure to receive affording me Room to expect my Proposal will meet with Approbation; I opened to Mr Dulany what Steps I had taken with respect to him in the Affair, for which He acknowledged himself much obliged, but considering with himself that his Acceptance of the Office tho on those terms would oblige him to relinquish his practice as a Lawyer which brings him in annually a very considerable Estate, He seemed disposed to decline the proposal till He had had some Conversation with Mr Tasker thereon, after which they made it a joint Request as an equal Favour & obligation to both that I would apply to have the Commission directed to Mr Dulany alone. I presume the Gentn have writ themselves on the affair to desire your favourable hearing of such a Request. Letter Bk. I. p. 40

For a Successor to Mr Young in his Ldp's Council I have taken the liberty to recommend Mr Wm Goldsborough or Mr James Tilghman Gentn much esteemed for their Probity Temper & Abilities.

I might perhaps be expected to give an extraordinary Reason for mentioning Mr Goldsborough after discountenancing in so particular a manner his Brother's Application but a natural Relationship you are sensible does not imply a Similarity of manners & Dispositions & convincing Instance of that observation is here to be met with, the great Reputation Character & Esteem his Prudence honesty & honour had acquired him induced me to appoint him one of the Judges of Assize which Trust he has discharged with general Approbation & Applause, Him or the other Gentn who professes the Law I have ventured to recommend as Gentn whose Capacity will add great Strength to his Ldp's Council. p. 41

I was obliged to acquaint his Ldp with the impracticability of compleating the Govrs House by Lottery; if His Ldp chuses to advance any Sum for reparing a little the Wast that Time has made in the House I beleive it might much forward its Completion, however I have pitched on the first Convention

Letter Bk. I. of the next Assembly to make a Struggle for a Sum of Money to finish it—The Journals of both Houses of Assembly herewith transmitted will shew with how little success I met them the 25th of March on the Business I acquainted you with in my last Letter. the Ohio Affair you will perceive was scarcely heard with temper, & the Method proposed for raising Money to answer the Expence of sending Commrs to Albany was such as could not be concurred with. you will see that I am reduced to great Streights, by the People's determined Resolution to make His Majesty's Service & His Ldp's Interest clash if by any means it can be so brought about: that I permitted the upper House at their earnest Request to return the Bill curtailed only, as matters were brought to such a Crisis, I hope will not appear too indulgent, & I should be extreemly obliged by your advising me how to steer my Course when such Difficulties shall again happen to occur. The pressing Sollicitations of the several Governmts around us alarmed at the great Progress of the French in making themselves Masters of the Country westward of these Provinces; have necessitated me to meet again our Assembly the 8th Inst when I hope to find them better disposed to promote the Service so earnestly recommended in the Letters from the Lords of Trade & the Earle
p. 42 of Holdernesse. A small Fort that the Virginians had erected on the River Ohio a Body of near 1000 French Troops have about a week since summoned & taken before the Forces raised in Virginia Carolinas & New York could muster & go to its Defence or Relief. The Govt at home have sent Orders to the Independant Companies at New York & Carolina to join these Troops which will make them near 1000 compleat, an unequal Force by what intelligence we have received to the French already posted on & about that River—Your Favour of the 5th of Jany with His Ldp's Instructions I have lately received & shall shew the greatest Diligence in procuring & sending satisfactory Answers to the particulars thereby enjoined; The Laws I am getting transcribed (so as to reject those expired or dissented to) which returned authenticated I hope will give satisfaction. An express Answer to what relates to the Boundaries, the Examinations & observations I had before & have now ordered to be made will very soon as I before observed enable me to make; I have by this sent the References to supply the Defect complained of in the Answer to Logan's state of the Claims &c & I hope a Reference to the 74th Article of my private Instructions will induce you to excuse the seeming impropriety of the Expression concerning the Newcastle Radius in my first Letter which might be in part occasioned by the sole way of measuring in use here to wit by the Chain (maugre Hill or Dale that shall occur), by a

Question started by the Commissioners of the two Provinces at running the temporary Line & by an Apprehension that the Peninsula might be divided in such a manner by a new Agreement between the Proprietors that no Relation might be wanted to be had at all to the Perephery of the New Castle Circle I observe your mention of the Bisection of a due East & West Line drawn from the North Point that makes the Inlet of Indian River across the Peninsula & from the Point of Bisection a Line to be run Northward as a Tangent to the Circle; apprehending that twas the Face of Emory's Map, in which He has without having taken any exact Observation laid down Choptank about the same Paralel of Latitude with the North Side of Indian River that suggested to you such a Division, I have sent M^r^ Emory to see whether or not such an East & West Line from the North Side of Indian River will coincide with or intersect the Water of Choptank River at any considerable Distance Eastwards from Chesopeak Bay. By this I shall more perfectly learn where that point of Bisection will fall & how Nanticoke Branches can be affected by either of the Lines you propose. The Receipt of Col^o^ Cressops Answer & M^r^ Veazey's Return who is now upon the Examination of the Distance & Bearings of the several Rivers w^th^ respect to Newcastle will I hope enable me to answer any Question that can be proposed about these particulars in a more explicite certain & categorical manner than the informations of any Gent^n^ here have hitherto enabled me to do. But if His Ldp will think of coming to Terms before such Examinations can be made, I should imagine Mess^r^ Penns could make no Objection to having an East & West Line run from Indian River or above it so as to clear Nanticoke half across the Peninsula & from the Extremity of such Line a Northern Line drawn to the Head of the Easternmost River that flows into Chesopeak Bay & then from the Head of such River be another Line continued if it intersects no navigable Water till it becomes a Tangent to the Circle. Such a Division I submit if His Ldp is impatient to determine the Affair before I can transmit a certain Account of the Particulars mentioned above & I should imagine that the Paragraph in the Late Ld's Agreement which secures to him if Navigation of the Rivers & their Heads would induce Mess^s^ Penn to consent to the running such Lines as I now describe.

Letter Bk. I. p. 43 p. 44

You will excuse my inserting here what ought to have been observed where I was speaking of the Quit Rents 1^st^ That the Rental Books as you have been pleased to stile them which go by the same Conveyance with this are here nominated Debt Books because in them is specified what each Individual is annually to pay for what Land He holds. They may I think

Letter Bk. I. very properly be called particular Rent Rolls or Rental Books but cannot come Authenticated from the Land Office by reason that a Tract of Land which is included in one Patent in the Land Records is here (owing to its having been frequently given sold or devised in seperate Parcells at which times it might often acquire new names) split into innumerable small parcells & Quantities, but I will order a general Rent Roll specifying the particular Tracts of Land patented in the several Counties & transmit it attested from the Land Office which may serve to prove that these now sent are justly & truly stated.

I should unnecessarily incroach on your time I apprehend by enlarging on what Col° Lloyd has writ concerning Pilates & Ferries; but I must take notice of an Order (of which a Copy is inclosed) that was issued by the Advice of the Council to prevent such Incroachments for the future as are therein set forth. I hope it will deter the Pensilvania Surveyors from venturing either of their own Heads or others Invitations to
p. 45 make Survey of His Ldps Lands & as it was a Caution Gov^r^ Hamilton has thought proper on his part to take I hope there will be no more cause of Complaint either to him or me. I have been informed that M^r^ Graham has made a Resolution to embark soon for England I am afraid with a Design to be troublesome to his Ldp; I am very sorry He should be averse to satisfying himself here, he has been with me 2 or 3 times since my arrival complaining loudly of the ill Treatment that He thinks has been offered him: I endeavoured to pacify him by promising to confer on him any Office that would support him genteely & that He was willing to execute if the Offices He already holds should on his acquainting me with his present Income appear deficient. After his return home I received some irregular Accounts Bills Draughts Orders Letters &c from which I was to deduce what was the trivial Value of his Posts, which however it was from such Papers impossible to do, but by the Return from the several Officers that has been now made me, it appears He does or ought to receive about £150. Ster^g^ p Ann. and so much I have proposed to secure him the punctual payment of on his Resignation of the Places He at this time enjoys. This proposal I earnestly hope will on his due consideration of it prevent his Voyage to England, but least his impatience should render my scheme abortive; I have taken the Liberty to inclose one of his Letters to me which will shew with what Disposition he might be expected to arrive in England.

In answer to your Desire that I would mention some Gent^n^ as capable & willing to succeed M^r^ Jenings should He resign
p. 46 I would beg leave to recommend M^r^ Steven Bordley as a person

that will accept the place on those Conditions & I know none Letter Bk. I.
who can execute the Office with better Abilities. He is a Gent[n] of the Law in great practice well esteemed & I am persuaded from his Behaviour & Professions at my Arrival & his Conduct since that He will not fail in his Duty either to the Gov[t] or to yourself. I have hinted to Col[o] Lloyd to be punctual in his Remittances & am assured you will not find him negligent or deficient. I am &c.

P. S. May 9. I yesterday opened the Session with the inclosed Speech & received the inclosed Address thereon.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

11[th] of May 1754. transmitted by Capt. Coxen in the Molly.

Dear S[r]

Your Favour of Ian[y] 11 I had the Satisfaction to receive & beg leave to seize this Opportunity to make my Acknowledgments to you for your Care & Sollicitude to undeceive his Ldp & to represent things to him in their proper light. The Reasons I have taken the Liberty to urge in my other Letters for not having already put in execution the plan you favoured me with for collecting the Rents I hope will be thought satisfactory, & I am persuaded any Gent[n] who is a Stranger in this Country must have been very deficient in his payments to my Lord or have himself suffered from entering into such Conditions as you say were proposed: What Benefit could be promised to His Ldp from a Person's being sent over here to p. 47
inspect the Offices I cannot readily conceive; as their making exorbitant Demands on the People is I presume sufficiently provided for by the Assembly in the Inspection Law, & that those who have the honour to serve My Lord in any Capacity do him the strictest Justice I will make so much my peculiar Care as to prevent the necessity of his Ldp's Commissioning any such Inspector general. that the Scheme is dropped I heartily rejoice & must think that all parties as well as myself are highly indebted to you for preventing it's being put in Execution—I thought myself in justice to the great Care you had taken in procuring such Arms as were lately returned the Province obliged when the Gent[n] of the Assembly dined with me last Session to mention the Arms to them as meriting their notice & Examination & did not fail setting your Assiduity & Care in obteining them in the Light in which they deserve to appear.

My proposing an Act for the Support of the Currency of the neighbouring Colonies was occasioned by a Person's being lately convicted in Philadelphia for uttering counterfeit paper

Letter Bk. I. Currency of this Province, for which (tho a vast quantity of Bills were found in his possession) He escaped with a light punishment in comparison to what his Offence deserved: for want of such a Law as I have recommended He could be only punished by them as a Cheat; as the Crime was committed out of this Province (tho we must be much affected by such Offences) we could not take Cognizance at all of the fact of which he was accused.—By the Paragraph concerning the present manner of supporting the Poor I would recommend to them the building Work-houses in every County for the Reception of Vagrants & such as apply for Relief which would in good measure oblige them to labour for their maintenance & part of such Work
p. 48 house might be appropriated to the Reception of the County Invaleeds & patients who would thereby receive the Benefit of the County Phisitian's Attendance & Care for which He has a valuable Consideration yearly but on account of His Patients being so much dispersed as they are at present can possibly do them very little Service.

The last Article hinted at in my Speech & the mention therein made of His Ldp I hope you will approve of which to know will afford the highest Satisfaction to

S^r^ Y^r^ &c.

P. S. Inclosed is a Duplicate of a Bill of Exchange for £125. sent in my last for your use & Disposal. Your nomination of M^r^ Dulany's youngest Son I am well satisfied with, but as I apprehend that on my presenting him to that Clerkship in case of a Vacancy a Present will be offered as has been usual to M^r^ Jenings I wait your Commands for my Behaviour on such Occasion.

Original. [Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Garraway's May 11^th^ 1754.

Dear Sir

M^r^ Bacon informing me this morning of his ships sailing a Monday I've have but just time to Notice to you that My Lord has rec^d^ M^r^ Calvert's Letters of Advice of the Death of M^r^ Young & your having thereupon offered him to be Iudge of the Land office in conjunction with M^r^ Stuart. His puncto of Honour, warmth & difficulties he seem's to laye under in regard to his own pecuniary Intrest w^h^ has Caused him to an Ill-behaviour on your kind & good offered friendship to him has not a little Netled his Lordh^p^ resentment ag^t^ him; however he has postponed his Determination thereon till hears in relation thereto from you.

M^r^ Tasker has write me a Letter informing me to M^r^ Dulany

declines his acceptance jointly with Mr Tasker of the Commissary office, wh surprises me because their appointment by My Lord was done agreeable to their own Desire Mr Tasker aledges 'tis on Acct of the Low Price of Tobacco, that reduces the ffees of the office, there may be something at present in that respect, but that will not long hold, I hope he only Speaks his sense thereon in view of his own Interest, I've recd no Letter from Mr Dulany you will be very good to him to perswade him to Accept, otherways My Lord will appoint another with Mr Tasker, wh will be Loss to Mr Dulany he will repent his being the Occasion of himself.

Yesterday morg Mr Jenings was with me, he said he had some Design for France. I asked him what his design was in regard to his return to Maryland & Desired it of him to tel me ingeniously he said he had no thoughts of returning to the Province provided his returns of money did not fail him, in Answer, I said that might be a material point to him, but in regard to My Lord & his office under me he must come to a resolution, to that he replyed, he submitted to My Lord & my self, as it was likely he shoud not return He shoud not take it Ill if removed. I thereupon left it to his further consideration & we are in a few Days to go together to Wood Cote at wh time with My Lord this Affair will be settled, he mentioned Mr Brice to me for his Successor as my Deputy

The Attory General of Virginia I am inform'd is turn out, by reason of his journey & Errant here contains a Dispute with his M——— from the Virginians in Respect to the Pistole a ffee insist'd, on taking out the Landed Grants under the Crown, the Compt will shortly have a hearing before the Council Board, the determination is thought will be the Pistole & I think the Attory has a good chance to be restored he having Mr Hanbury his fast friend.

The Affair of Mr Calvert & Mr Sterling is not as yet determin'd here by the Lord's of Treasury 'tis Mr Philpots fault who has neglected it with the Commissioners of Customs your Brother Iohn promises me faithfully if opportunity serves to do Mr Ridout Service therein

Your
Affect friend
Cæcils Calvert

Excuse Errors in haste.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 48

6 June 1754

My Lord
Thursday last in compliance with their Request I pro-

Letter Bk. I. rogued our Assembly to the 16th of next July after a Session of 3 weeks in which time I succeeded with them so far as to procure the Sum of £500 for a present to be sent to the Six Indian nations who are to be met in obedience to the Letter from the Lords of Trade at Albany the 14th Inst, by Commissioners from the several Governmts on the Continent. A Bill also was sent from the Lower House with the specious Preamble of being for His Majesty's Service, whereby the Sum of
p. 49 £3000 was to be granted for the support of the neighbouring Colonies against any Attempts of the French or other hostile Troops: but the old Clause concerning Hawkers & Pedlars (whereby your Lordships Right to forfeitures is disputed) being inserted therein & the Lower House in many Conferences obstinately persisting that not the least Concession should on their part be made with respect to that Article the Bill was returned them with a negative & so the Affair Dropt. While I am on this Topick I will beg leave to submit to your Lordship's Consideration whether it be impracticable or improper to fall on any method to put a Stop to such Perverseness as might generally be perceived in the proceedings of our Lower Houses of Assembly which is in great measure owing to the short Duration of our Sessions which terminate at the end of 3 years: few Gentn will submit so frequently to the inconveniences that such as canvass for Seats in that House must necessarily subject themselves to; by which means there are too many Instances of the lowest Persons at least Men of small fortunes no Soul & very mean Capacities appearing as Representatives of their respective Counties; As there would be no want I apprehend of Gentn to appear as Candidates if the Drudgery of Electioneering was to return less frequently. I submit to your Lordships Wisdom whether there may be any impropriety (if a more agreeable Choice of Members should be made) in continuing the next Assembly for more years than has been lately usual or customary—Your Ldp was pleased by your Instructions to forbid the Removal of any Iustices or
p. 50 Magistrates without your Ldps express Lycence or permission but as several had crept into the Commission who were unqualified & vastly unworthy to be intrusted with such power as is given by such Commission especially as the 600 Law has now taken place I did presume when I issued the last Commission to the several Counties (which is done annually) to leave out such persons names as I was assured were improper to be vested with any authority or power in your Ldp's Governt & I cannot but mention to your Ldp a seeming Impropriety with respect to the Judges or Magistrates of the supreme or provincial Court, Several of the County Clerks who are in their respective Counties as it were Servants of the Bench which is

composed of the Iustices of Peace or simple Magistrates have Letter Bk. I.
by some means or other been nominated to sit as Iudges in a
Superiour Court of Judicature which I beg leave to submit to
your Ldps Consideration I have taken the Liberty to inclose
to your Ldp the Copy of a Letter I lately received from the
Rector of Coventry Parish in Somerset County a Person of a
most abandoned & prostituted Life & Character, which I appre-
hend He was incited to write to me by my refusal to grant him
a Nolo Prosequi to prevent his being punished according to
Law for marrying Persons without Lycence. Your Ldp will
perceive what Sentiments he entertains of any superiour
Authority but if your Ldp should be pleased to take any Steps p. 51
for his Suspension or removal the whole Parish will gladly
transmit me Attestations of his notorious immoral Behaviour
by which He has forfeited not only the Character of a Clergy-
man but even of a Christian I am &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

6 Iune 1754. transmitted by Doctor Thornton in Capt. Rawlins.

S^r^

I have taken this Opportunity of transmitting in Obedience to his Ldp's Instructions Duplicates of all the Laws enacted at the Conclusion of the October Session & have also inclosed to you an Abridgment of all the Proceedings of both Houses of Assembly from the year 1661 that relate to the Disposition of the fines & forfeitures arising from the Lycencing Ordinaries, upon which Article I desired you in my last to favour me with his Ldp's or your farther Instructions.

I have been obliged again to prorogue our Assembly till July next without having obtained the Ends for which they were convened: with some difficulty were they prevailed on to provide for the Comm^rs^ & for a Present to be delivered the Six Nations at the approaching Interview at Albany; but so insuperably indifferent or perverse were they with respect to the other Service recommended to them in my Speech that all they consulted was how to save Appearances & seem to be disposed to encourage that important Enterprize. for this purpose a p. 52
Bill was prepared & sent to the upper House under the Title of an Act for His Majesty's Service whereby the Sum of £3000 was to be granted for the Support of the neighbouring Colonies against any hostile Troops that shall attack or invade His Majestys Territories on this Continent, amongst other means for repaying the said £3000 was inserted the old Clause respecting Hawkers & Pedlars from a Tittle of which as they were found resolutely determined not to recede. The Bill was

Letter Bk. I. returned after a few Conferences had between both Houses thereon with an absolute Negative & that I am afraid will be the Case, as often as I might be obliged to meet them on the same Occasions.

I must attribute in great measure the Obstinacy that has appeared in the Lower House of Assembly during these two last Conventions to the near approach of another Election which as I intimated in my Last has no little influence on the Conduct of such Representatives as for the most part compose our present Senate: As I have humbly submitted to his Ldp to consider whether it might be improper to put our Assembly on another Regulation by lengthening the time of their Sessions, the proposal I hope will meet with your Approbation.

It is owing to Col° Cressap's Absence from home among the Virginians on Ohio, that I am not yet able to comply with your Requisition concerning the Latitude of the most northern Bend of Potomack I some weeks since writ two Letters desiring
p. 53 him to return me a Copy of his Map of that River signed & authenticated which I will transmit with the Description of Distances & Bearings of the River Heads on the Eastern Shore as soon as the Surveyors make their Returns which I expect in about 3 weeks or a month at farthest;

My Suspicion of Choptank River's being inaccurately laid down in that Map of Emory's is confirmed by his Return from the Business in which at my last writing he was engaged. That River instead of lying Northward of the East & West Line drawn (in that Map which is in your Possession) from Indian River, is, upon Examination found to lye entirely to the Southward of it which I am afraid will not be so convenient for your proposed Division. The account you required from the Records of this Province concerning an Observation taken in 1669 at Newcastle & returned to the Governor of New York I have herewith sent & also the Act of Assembly that you desired from the Gover[r] of Virginia which proves to be posteriour to the time you mentioned; & Gov[r] Dinwiddie informs me that no account of the Commissioners Proceedings in Consequence of such Act can be found recorded in that Province. You will also be pleased to receive by this same Conveyance, attested Copies of as many old Surveys Patents Warrants or Certificates of Land at present disputed between the two Provinces as I have hitherto been Able to procure & also a Copy with the Provincial Seal affixed of the Commissioners Journal who were appointed to run the northern Temporary Line; in their Proceedings you may be pleased to observe that on April
p. 54 the 23 a Dispute happened about running a 15¼ due South Line; The Question being whether Superficial or Horizontal Measurement should be allowed, & that on the 24[th] the Mary-

land Comm^rs^ agreed to make an Allowance of twenty five Letter Bk. I.
Perches more for the uneveness of the Ground; which I am informed by M^r^ Chamberlayne was too much by 10 or 12 Perches; this is no inconsiderable width for a Tract of Land extending from Susquehanna to the Meridian of Potomack, & notice should be taken thereof in any future Agreement. The Magistrate at whose Behaviour to M^r^ Veazey you are so justly displeased is no longer in the Comm^n^ & I have taken the Liberty to leave out some others in those parts of the Province who appeared timorous in doing the Duty of their Office or backward to assist his Ldps Receivers in the Collection of His Rents with hopes that you will not disapprove of such my proceedings. I presume Col^o^ Lloyd has acquainted you with our Resolve to advance the Rent of His Ldps mannours in Baltimore & Frederick Counties from 10^s^ to 20 shillings ꝑ 100 Acres & I have also issued Orders for the Prosecution of any persons who shall be detected in cutting Timber in Pocomoke Swamp or on any other Lands that remain to his Ldp as private property. I have writ to M^r^ Dallam for M^r^ Brerewood's papers concerning the Estate which He has promised carefully to convey to me with a Certificate of his Father's Death & Burial, I imagine it will be prudent to take Copies & get them attested before the Original Papers are sent lest the miscarriage of them might be of evil Consequence. I have been prevailed on to suspend till His Ldps pleasure can be known the payment of p. 55
a Sum of money forfeited to his Ldp by one James Jarret & a certain John Mitchell of Dorchester County: the Reasons that induced me to order a Suspension of Payment you will be pleased to see in their petition inclosed & I hope their Case will be thought deserving this his Ldps Compasion & Clemency. If M^r^ Hide is willing to discharge the Arrears of Rent due to His Ldp I can get Purchasers for the following Tracts of Land. Darnalls Camp containing 1000 Acres, Darnalls Silvania, 500 Acres & the Affinity 15000 Acres lying in Baltimore C^ty^ near the Falls of Gunpowder.

M^r^ Keys who has constantly adhered to his Ldps Interest & the just Support of Gov^t^ at all times & in all Cases (except the Introduction of the Statute Laws of England) on which point alone He differs from us) desires favour for his Son as a C^ty^ Clerk when any one not already engaged shall become vacant, which in his Behalf I humbly submit to your Consideration. Since writing the above I have seen M^r^ Darnall & cant think him (as much of his Ldp's Property necessarily depends upon the Abilities of the Attorney Gen^l^) sufficiently qualified for that post tho otherwise a well behaved sensible man; I should be of opinion that the most able Lawyer ought to be engaged to accept the same, which at present from the Smallness of its

Letter Bk. I. Profitts cant be expected, unless upon your taking it into Consideration you should think it adviseable to annex the Naval Officers place to it; I mention this place as it need not take
p. 56 him off his Business, as his Ldp may permit him to transact it by a Deputy.

Mr Darnell has received the Sacrament, taken the several Oaths to the Govt repeated the Test & subscribed the Oath of Abjuration & Test, which being all that can be required obliges me to think favourably of him & is willing to resign his Place of Attorney Genl for any other His Ldp shall be pleased to bestow on him.

I am wth the greatest Truth &c.

P. S. I have this Instant received a Letter from Colo Cresap with the Plan & Certificate concerning the North Branch of Potowmack & the Temporary Line as run by him.

Original. [Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Iuly 6th 1754.

Dear Sr

You herewith receive his Lordp's Instruction with his Commission of Licence for Absence from the Province agreeable to his Majesty's Commission to you as Lieut Colonel of his Forces in the West Indies, of wh Commission I wish you much Ioy. May all Success attend your endeavours under so important a National Employ, & with the Force under your Command may you be compleately Victorious. The share I have had in this your New & Honorable Commission has been by a Person who early made known your Abbilities to His Majesty's Council for this particular service & finding the proposal of you Acceptable, I communicat'd it to My Lord, your Brothers Willm & Iohn, who have gain'd you the Military Rank from his Majesty, with Power I hope for the compleation of much happiness to you in Life & to remain Great to Posterity.

His Lordsp who has a great Regard for you Trust & does not doubt, but that you will be very Careful before your Absence from the province to commit all his Affairs Publick & private into such hands & under such proper regulations with Directions as will be attended with Happiness & Advantage to him, & that yr returns to his province will be as often as you can to perfect the same.

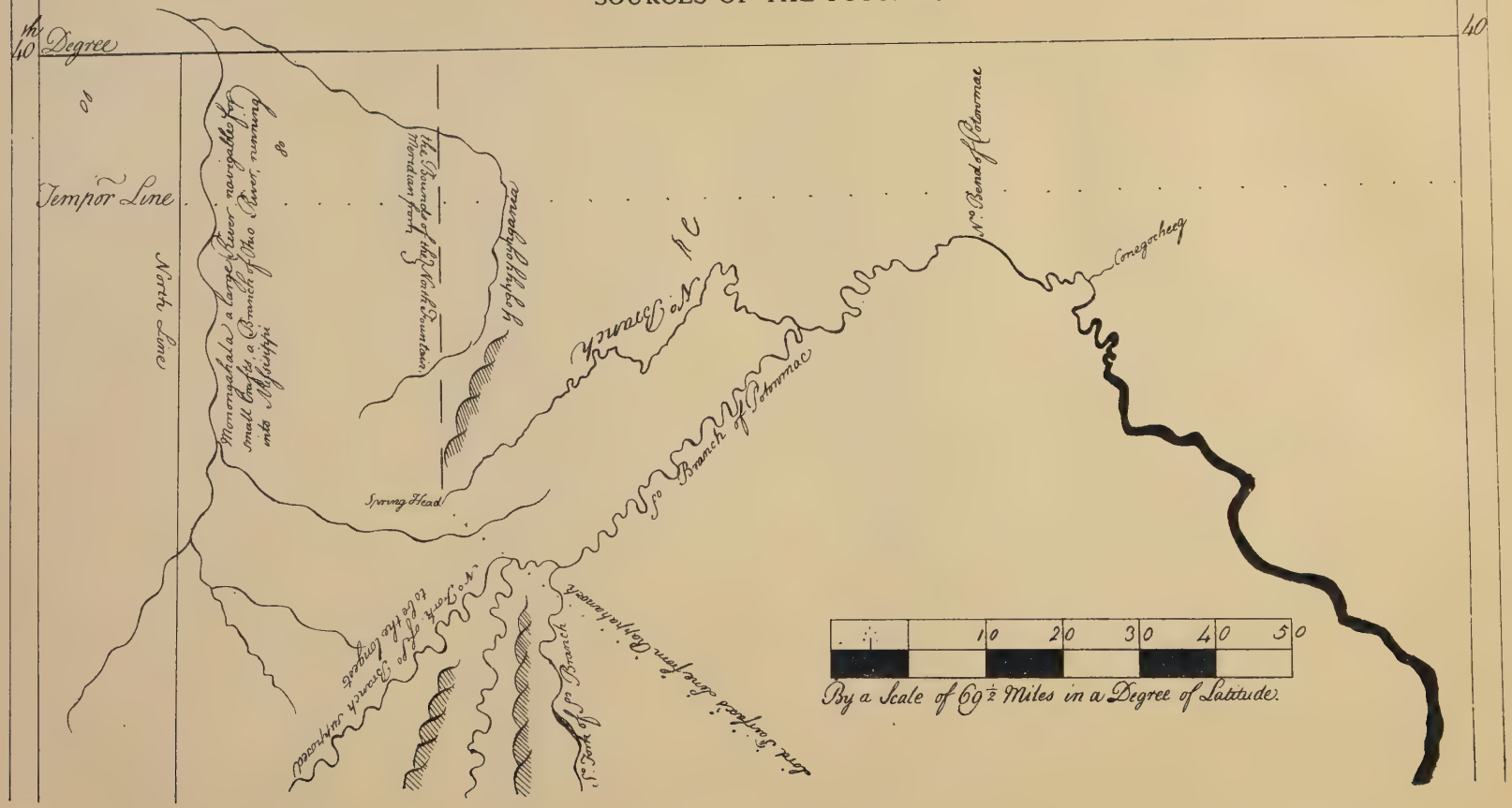
The hearing from you often on All Occasions will be very acceptable, you will find in me a just Corespondent; and it will be very agreeable to My Lord your transmission of your particular Letters & Intelligences to the Croun & Ministry that such concerns may be by his Delivery to Them, of wh due Care will be taken.

FACSIMILE OF

COL. THOMAS CRESAP'S MAP

OF THE

SOURCES OF THE POTOMAC



The sudden Dispatch & shortness of time Admits me to say no more to you. I am with peculiar esteem

Y^rs^
Unfeignedly
Cæcil^s^ Calvert

Pos^t^ On closing of this I receive acc^t^ of Cap^t^ Coxen arrival I hope the Publick papers &c. are a board of him I have as yet received none of the first from you since your Arrival into the Province nor of any other Intelligence save what I have answ^d^ you. By the first ship M^r^ Tasker will receive a Letter of Attor^y^ ab^t^ the Protested Bills of Exchange M^r^ Graham died in his Passage, My Lord I believe intends the Naval office of Pocomack & the Surveyor's Place for M^r^ Cha^s^ Graham as a means for his Support of M^rs^ Graham the Widow, who returns to the province; Therefore they must be kept vacant. M^r^ Att^y^ Randolph is dismist of his employ & the Petition ag^t^ the Pistole rejected.

My L^d^ sends you his best wishes.

[Commission to Sharpe.] Original.

F: Baltimore. Frederick Absolute Lord & Proprietor of the Province of Maryland and Avalon in America and Baron of Baltimore in the Kingdom of Ireland To our trusty & well beloved Horatio Sharpe Esquire Leiutenant General & Cheif Governor of our said Province of Maryland Greeting.

Whereas His Majesty from the great Confidence he has in your military skill and Abilities has thought it for the publick Service to constitute and appoint you Lieutenant Colonel of the Forces intended to be sent against the Forces who have invaded his Majesty's Dominions in the Province of Virginia and other parts of America. And I being desirous to further such his Majestys Royal Intention and to do all in my power to oppose & repell the common Enemy and to express the great Satisfaction it gives me that His Majesty has done me the Honour to shew this his repeated Approbation of my Choice of you for my Governor of my Province of Maryland by Granting you his own immediate Commission as an officer fit & proper to be employed in so great & national Undertaking, and out of the Regard I have for you and from a sincere Inclination to promote your Welfare. I do hereby signify my Desire That you do forthwith proceed to pay all due & punctual obedience to his Majesty's Royal Commission according to the Tenor and true Intent and meaning thereof. And in Case his Majesty's Service in consequence of the said

Commission shall require your temporary Absence from my said Province I do further declare my free Leave and Assent thereto. And that such your Absence from my said Province in obedience to his Majesty's said Commission shall not in any respect invalidate your Commission as my Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, Provided, that you return to my said Province to resume the Government thereof when and as often as his Majestys Service shall permit you so to do. And it is my further Will & Pleasure that during your Absence out of the Province upon this great, necessary, and national Service, the Powers of Government over my Province of Maryland be exercised by the President or Senior Member for the time being of my Council whom you are to authorize and commissionate for that purpose, when and as the same shall become necessary, agreeable to the Instructions already received or which shall hereafter be received from me. And I do hereby require you forthwith to Signify or cause to be signified to the Council of State and to both Houses of Assembly within my said Province of Maryland as well the Royal Commission with which his Majesty has been most graciously pleased to invest you upon this important Service, as this my Leave of Absence hereby granted to you from my said Province; And in a more particular manner I do require and enjoyn you, That you do in the most serious & earnest manner recommend it to the good People of my said Province, That they do in furtherance of his Majestys Royal Intentions, and in manifestation of their own just Abhorrence and Resentment at the unprovoked Insults, and Attempts of the Invaders, most heartily co-operate with his Majesty and their neighbouring Governments, by granting such effectual Supplys and prosecuting such vigorous Measures against the common Enemy as shall demonstrate to all future Ages the distinguished Zeal and Loyalty of this my Province of Maryland to their Sovereign and the Cause of their Country.

Given at London under our Hand & greater Seal at Arms this sixth day of July in the twenty eighth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the second and in the fourth year of our Dominion over the said Provinces, Annoque Domini one thousand seven hundred and fifty four

By his Lordships Command

Cæcil[s] Calvert Secretary

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Virg[a] Iuly 9[th] 1754.

S[r]

Agreeable to your advice I have delivered the Prisoners to Cap[t] Strahan, the charges in bringing them from the King's Ship, & keeping them in Prison here, I think should be paid by your Treasurer, you have the Acc[t] enclosed.—I wish you an agreeable Meeting with your Assembly, & hope they will now be convinc'd of the Necessity of granting a Supply for conducting the Expedition against the comon Enemy; & more so as the Property of every Individual in these Colonies are so much concerned & in Danger.

I shall be glad to hear the result of your Assembly, & I am with very great esteem & Regard.

Y[r] Excellency's
most obed[t] hble Serv[t]
Rob[t] Dinwiddie

P: S: The Bearer brings the
Examinat. of the Prisoners
in S[o] Carolina——

[Calvert to Sharpe.] Original.

London Iuly 13[th] 1754.

Dear Sir

I have it in Commandment from [the] Lord Proprietor to aquaint you, that you are on the receipt of this Letter not to fail immediately to appoint & Commission M[r] Charles Gratham of Calvert County Naval Officer of the Port of Pocomake, he giving such security as is usual for his just paym[t] of the monies th[t] shall become due to the Proprietor &c. I am inform'd M[r] Tasker Iun[r] held the Survey[r] General's Office of the Eastern shore for the benefit of the late M[r] David Graham paym[t] to him as to his produce; the Widow of M[r] Grayham with an Infant who is the Bearer of this to you intending to reside in the province with her Brother in Law M[r] Grayham who is willing to support & maintain her & Child, tis but reasonable he shol[d] be recompenced for such Charge he must Necessarily be at of happiness to her, therefore, it will be agreeable to his Lord[ps] Desire, that in case it be good Policy not to remove M[r] Tasker from the Surveyors office & place therein M[r] Grayham, you will not fail with[t] delay of giving M[r] Cha[s] Grayham an Equivolent as to value in money by stating him in some other Office.

I need not be further Urgent in this Affair to you, the consanguinity of the Widow to the Proprietor & his family, her real worth & good Character she bears in Life, under grevious Distress as to want all support truly Craves his Lord[ps] & your

Protection, countenance & regard to her in all things within the province towards her happiness; your instant complyance on her behalf I make no doubt; as thereby you'l testifye y^r^ Regard & Will of the Proprietor, with real friendship to me & the Family.

Yours
with peculiar Esteem
Cæcil^s^ Calvert.

Post I have Direct^d^ this to you or to the President of the Council in case of y^r^ Absence, that he may on the receipt of this follow his Lords^ps^ orders herein to M^r^ Grayham on Acc^t^ of M^rs^ Grayham with^t^ delay of w^h^ I request the favour of hearing by the first Opportunity. Coxen is arrived. I desire you'l tel M^r^ Tasker I am surprised he has not favour me with an Order on his corespondent in London of w^h^ I insist on

Original.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Virg^a^ Iuly 31^st^ 1754.

S^r^

Col^o^ Washington's orders from me was, by no means to attack the Enemy till the whole Forces were joined in a Body, & they knew no Intention of the Enemy till the very Morning they engaged them, & if the Misfortune attending our Forces has rous'd the Spirits of our neighbouring Colonies, as you justly observe, has done more than probably a Victory would have effected—And I desire to congratulate you that after your indefatigable Trouble your Legislative have agreed to grant 6,000 for His Majestys Service—The Women & Children belonging to our friendly Indians are gone into Pensylvania Governm^t^ where no doubt proper Care will be taken of them.

I called my Council this Day & laid before them y^r^ Letter they are of opinion, if agreeable to you, that you shou'd send one hundred Men to join our Forces. Col^o^ Innes the Comander in Chief will have my orders to march all the Forces he can collect together over the Allegany Mountains; & if he cannot dispossess the Enemy of the Fort, he is to build a Fort at Red Stone Creek, the Crossing Place or some other Place most convenient, as may be determined by a Council of War. It will be very agreeable if y^r^ Excellency with the rest of your Men, will order the building a Magazine for Provisions, any where near Wills's Creek, large enough to receive Provisions for 1500 Men for one year, which as you justly observe, is absolutely necessary & the Comissary of our Stores being

disappointed was much complain'd of for want of proper Supplies—The Pay, and Allowance, for our Forces, are as follows. Captains 8/ p day Lieut^{s} 4/ Ensigns 3/. Serjeants 1/6. Corporals 1/. and every private Man 8^{d} with Provisions, that's to say, Flour, Pork, or Beef, one Pistole entrance or listing Money & 26/. to buy them a Coat & Breeches—I fear 6^{d} p Week for Corn will not be a proper Allowance, as they do expect either Pork or Beef—The road you are pleased to mention from Rock Creek to Wills's Creek will be of very great use & Advantage & therefore desire you will please give your orders to execute it imediately.—I send you Copy of the Capitulation, which from the small Number of our Troops, they were obliged to accept of. that Article of not settling in that Part for a Twelve Month is conceived only to restrain these Persons that were left with the Baggage, so the officers interpret it, tho' probably the French intended to extend it further, however we are now going to prevent the French from Settling. I am in hopes our Troops will all be at Wills's Creek, by the 20th of next Month, & below I send you an Acc^{t} of their Numbers, & I doubt not you will be able to raise 100 Men to join them by that Time (or to march after them, as they will be between the Enemy & Wills's Creek) which is included in the Calculation below.

The Gov^{r} of Pensylvania has called his Assembly to meet the 5th & desires an Answer to some Queries, which I now send him, I shall be glad if you will please order the Messenger fresh Horses that he may be there in Time, excuse Brevity & scralls being much hurried, but believe me to be with great Truth—

P. S. I have order'd the different Corps to be compleated; pray give me your opinion if you think I am right in endeavouring to build a Fort, the other side of the Allegany Mountains if it's delay'd to the Spring I fear the Enemy will be reinforc'd—

Your Excellency's
most obed^{t} hble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Independent Company from S^{o} Carolina—	100
2 —— D^{o} from N York	160
Virginia Regiment	300
N. Carolina D^{o}	350
Maryland Company	100
Total	1010 Men

The inclos'd News Paper contains a true acc^{t} of the action from our officers

Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Calvert Papers.

Capitulation

granted by Monsieur De Villier Captain & Commander of Infantry & Troops of his most Christian Majesty to those English Troops actually in the Fort of Necessity which was built on the Lands of the Kings Dominions, Iuly 3 1754 at 8 o Clock at night, Viz.

As Our Intentions have never been to trouble the peace & good Harmony which reigns between the two princes in Amity but only to revenge the Assasination committed on one of our Officers Bearer of a Citation as appears by his writing; as also to hinder any Establishment on the Lands of the Dominions of the King my master; upon these Considerations we are willing to grant Protection or favour to all the English that are in the said Fort on the Conditions hereafter mentioned.

Article 1. We grant leave to the English Commander to retire with all his Garrison & to return peaceably into his own Country & promise to hinder his receiving any Insult from us French; & to restrain, as much as shall be in our power the Savages that are with us.

2. It shall be permitted him to go out & carry with him all that belongs to them except the Artillery which we keep.

3. That we will allow them the honours of War, that they march out with Drums beating, & a Swivel Gun, being willing to shew them that we treat them as friends.

4. That as soon as the Articles are signed by both parties the English Colours shall be struck.

5. That to morrow at Break of Day a Detachment of French shall go & make the Garrison file off & take possession of the Fort.

6. As the English have but few Oxen or Horses they are free to hide their Effects & to come again & search for them when they have got a sufficient number of Horses &c to carry them off & that for this End they may have what Guards they please; on Condition that they give their word of Honour not to work upon any Buildings in this Place or any part of this side the Mountains during the Space of one year to commence from this Day.

7. And as the English have in their Power, An Officer two Cadets & most of the Prisoners made in the Assasination of the Sieur De Jamonville they must promise to send them back with a Safeguard, to the Fort Du Gurne situated on the fine River & for surety of their performing this Article as well as the Treaty M^{r} Jacob Vambram & Robert Stobo both Captains shall be kept as Hostages till the Arrival of the Canadeans & French above mentioned. We oblige ourselves on our Side to give an Escort to return in Safety these two Officers; &

expect to have our French in two months & a half at farthest; A Duplicate of this being fixed upon one of the Posts of our Blockade the Day above named

Con. Villier.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 56

Augst 8. 1754.

In obedience to your Ldps Instructions I have writ to y^{r} Ldps Sec^{y} particularly concerning your Ldps private Affairs & the late publick Transactions in y^{r} Ldp's Province to be submitted to y^{r} Ldp who will not I hope condemn any part of my Conduct which I have now taken the Liberty to make known, herewith I present to your Ldp the grateful Address of the Trustees of the School y^{r} Ldp is pleased to encourage in Talbot C^{ty} & I have also obeyed y^{r} Ldps Orders by transmitting by this Conveyance an account of the number of Persons that compose the inferiour Branches of the Legislature of this province & also the number of Offices held under y^{r} Ldps p. 57
Govern^{t} specifying the yearly value of each as near as can be learnt. I also take the Liberty to inclose your Ldp a Plan that was proposed by the several Comm^{rs} from the neighbouring Colonies at Albany lately for forwarding a Union between the several Govern^{ts} in order the more easily to defend his Majesty's American Dominions against the French or any other hostile forces; which Scheme is to be laid before the Legislature of the several Provinces at their next Meeting for their Amendment or Approbation; but it has been intimated to me that the Gov^{r} of New York has already without tarrying for the Opinion of Assemblies transmitted a Copy thereof to the Board of Trade for their Honours Consideration.

Our Commissioners are just returned & inform us that the Indians who met them at Albany to the number of about 300 returned well satisfied with the Presents & Treatment they had received from the several Comm^{rs} & before their Departure after their Receipt of the Presents they took the Opportunity of a publick Entertainment to express their Acknowledgments to y^{r} Ldp & this Province & desired your Ldp would deign to accept from them the inclosed Belt of Wampum in token of their Affection & Love. In my Letter to y^{r} Ldp's Sec^{y} dated the 3^{d} of May I took notice that the French had about a week before that time made themselves Masters of a small Fort which the Virginians had erected on a Branch of the River Ohio, after which Accident they that retreated from the fort & p. 58
another party from Virginia composing about 300 Men under the Command of Col^{o} Washington encamped themselves or

Letter Bk. I. rather remained near Monongahela about 60 Miles on this Side the small Fort which had been surrendered expecting the Arrival of the Forces from Carolina & New York, by which Reinforcement they hoped to be able to make the French relinquish their late Conquest, while Affairs were in this Situation in the Beginning of Iune, Intelligence being brought M^r^ Washington that a Party of about 30 Men from the french Camp were coming to intercept some Provisions that were bringing from Virginia for his use, He ordered out a Detachment, who fell in with the French & after a few Blows made near the whole Party Prisoners who are still in Virginia. But soon was this small Advantage repayed by a heavy Misfortune for on the 3^rd^ of July M^r^ Washington being in the Situation above mentioned was alarmed with the News of 900 French Troops being on their March to attack him which before Eleven o Clock he found too true, when he was really surrounded by such a number as he had learnt were on their march having not any fortification or Entrenchment to protect his Men, he was after near 100 of his men had been either killed or disabled, obliged to accept Terms the same Evening, which were not very honourable as y^r^ Ldp will observe by a Copy of the Capitulation herewith inclosed. The News of this
p. 59 Defeat soon reached Gov^r^ Dinwiddies Ears & immediately thereupon He renewed his Sollicitations for our assistance without which he could not again look the Enemy in the face before Winter, which would be of fatal Consequence, as it was unlikely that their Assembly would proceed to raise any more forces unless we would shew a Disposition to support them in the Enterprize. By this I was induced to meet our Assembly the 16^th^ Inst. & prevailed with them so far as to send up a Bill for supporting the Virginians with £6000: at my assenting to which I hope y^r^ Ldp will not be displeased, nor that I have issued Comm^ns^ yesterday for raising a Company or two of Men in y^r^ Ldp's Govern^t^ by which we hope the Virginians will be reinforced enough to take the Field again before Winter. Y^r^ Ldp's several Instructions that I had the honour lately to receive it shall be my study to fulfill & immediately on the Receipt of them I delivered according to y^r^ Ldps Order y^r^ gracious Answers to the Addresses of both Houses of Assembly transmitted to y^r^ Ldp soon after my Arrival.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Secretary of State?] Letter Bk. II. p. 1

August 8th 1754. Annapolis in Maryland

May it please sent open to Ld Baltimore In Obedience to a Letter from the Earl of Holderness dated at Whitehall the 28th of August 1753 which I had the honour to receive, I acquainted the Assembly of this Province who were then sitting with his Majestys Pleasure therein signified who assured me that they had that due Sense of our most gracious Sovereign's paternal Tenderness for & Care of all His Subjects which Duty & Gratitude inspire & that they were sufficiently apprehensive of the great Danger of suffering a foreign power to encroach upon any part of his Majestys Dominions & that they were determined to repel in the best manner they can all hostile Invasions of this province by any forreign power & whenever the Circumstances of our neighbouring Colonies may require or need our Assistance that they shall chearfully contribute as far as they are able towards defending them against the Attacks of their Enemies & as the Lieut[t] Governor of Virginia has since that time made Application for our Assistance to protect & defend the Frontiers of that Government against some Regular Forces that are making Encroachments thereon I again summoned our General Assembly & have prevailed with them to grant the Sum of £6000 toward the Support of the Virginians against any Attempts of such Troops as threaten them with Hostilities or dispute his Majestys Right to his Dominions on this Continent, in this I hope I have punctually obeyed the Design of that Letter as I shall always endeavour to & take the greatest pleasure in being able to do p. 2 whenever you may be pleased to signify your farther Commands to &c.

[Sharpe to Commissioners of Trade.]

August 8th [1754] To the Commissioners of Trade

May it please your Honours

In Obedience to a Letter from your Honours to the Lieut[t] Governor of Maryland dated at White Hall the 18th of Sept[r] 1753, whereby He was required upon the Receipt thereof to summon the General Assembly of this Province & prevail on them to grant a Sum of Money for a present to the Six Nations of Indians, I immediately met the Assembly thereupon who complyed with your Honours Commands by granting the Sum of £500 for that purpose which I sent as directed by Commissioners to Albany & it was I learn there presented to the Indians who came thither lately to the General Interview held with them by Representatives from several Colonies on the Continent, who attended there in pursuance of your Honours

Letter Bk. II. Directions; in this I hope I have punctually fulfilled your Honours Intentions as I shall always take the greatest pleasure in doing whenever you may be pleased to signify them to Your Honours &c.

Letter Bk. I. p. 59

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

8th Augst 1754 transmitted by Capt Castleton.

Sir

In obedience to your Directions by Mr Jaques I herewith inclose an Answer to the Letter that I received from the Earl of Holderness but having learnt that His Ldp has since re-
p. 60 signed the Office of Secretary, I could not direct it, but if His Ldp pleases to present it to his Successor in the Office I must beg the favour of you to get it properly superscribed. I have also by way of Answer writ to the Commrs of Trade submitting it to his Ldp's pleasure to deliver the Letter or not. Your Observation on the latter part of the Assembly's Address in Answer to my Message with the Earl of Holdernesses Letter & your Reasoning with respect to the Law of 12l p Hhd is certainly well grounded, but as no good End could have been answered by my engaging at that time in a Dispute which would probably have attended my sending a different Sort of answer to their Address I hope neither His Ldp nor you are displeased at my declining it. The truth was, they were very averse to closing with my Recommendation to them to raise a Fund for Arms, & not knowing how to dissent openly from my Proposal they agreed to excuse themselves by modelling such an Answer as you saw but if they should ever seriously insist on the Deduction from the 12d there mentioned which I do not think they will: I will undertake to argue the matter with them & you may be assured will never make the least Concessions in Prejudice of his Ldps Rights or Pretensions.

It really gives me some Concern to find by your favour bearing Date 17th April that the Merchts pretend they have cause to complain against the Legislature of this Province for enacting the Supplementary Act to the Act entituled an Act
p. 61 for the Relief of Creditors in England &c for I conceive that this Act cannot controul restrain or in any respect affect the Operation of the Statutes, which it is insinuated to be repugnant to. This Act of Assembly provides only that no Assignment made by any Person or Persons trading to this province shall be of any Force until the Person to whom the assignment shall be made do give Security to pay all the Debts of the Assignor to the people of this Province, so that no other assignment can be affected by the Act than such as shall be made by

the very Debtor & therefore no assignment under the Statutes Letter Bk. I.
relating to Bankrupts can be impugned by the Act, Because the Major Part of the Bank's Creditors (in value) chuse the Assignees & in consequence of this Choice or nomination the Comm^rs^ make an assignment of the Bankrupts Estate (5 Geo 2). To this Assignment the Bankrupt is no party, & as the Supplementary Act provides only against Assignments made by the Debtor himself, it seems to me very manifest that there is not the least Colour of a Pretence for the Objection that the present Act of Assembly is repugnant to any of the Statutes relating to Bankrupts.

The Assignments guarded against by the Act are in their nature fraudulent. the Credit of the Merch^t^ in many Instances depends upon the Value of his Effects here, for the Planter considering those Effects as the property of his Correspondent estimates his Substance from this Appearance; but if Assignments made by the Merch^ts^ were to take place, the Creditor here who might be induced to give him Credit from a Con- p. 62
sideration of the value of the Effects may & probably will be deceived, for if the Creditors at home pursue their Interest they would never obtain a Comm^n^ of Bankruptcy against a Maryland Merch^t^ till they had secured his Effects here by an assignment—& as it is almost impracticable for a Creditor here to come in under a Comm^n^ of Bankruptcy, should these Assignments take place He would upon the matter be absolutely remediless, which cant be thought reasonable by any impartial Person since all the Profit which the Merch^t^ acquires by his Business arises from the Trust reposed in him by the Planter. If the Act of Assembly had enacted that all Country Debts should be paid before foreign Debts, the Partiality of such a Provision might have furnished matter of Complaint, but it is to be observed that the Act rather establishes an Equality among all Creditors, by preventing some of them from obtaining a Satisfaction by means of Assignments at the Expence of the Rest, for by making such assignments void, all the Creditors are left equally at large & have equal Remedies for the Recovery of their Dues.—The Merch^ts^ have all the Security for the payments of the Debts due to them here which they can reasonably desire, for by the 5 Geo 2 Cap 7 entituled an Act for the more easy Recovery of Debts in his Majestys Plantations & Colonies in America all Lands in the Plantations are subject in the same manner as personal Estate to the payment of Book Debts due to Merch^ts^ altho the Lands of Merch^ts^ in England are not in the same manner liable to the Satisfac- p. 63
tion of such Debts due to their Creditors here, from these Considerations I hope it must be allowed that this Supplementary Act is not contradictory to any English Statute or can

Letter Bk. I. afford any reasonable grounds for uneasiness to the Merch^ts^ or any Person else as it is only calculated to prevent fraud between the Merch^t^ & factor w^ch^ might otherwise have been carried on to the Detriment of the too credulous & honest Planter—As to the Testamentary Act which prefers Country to foreign Debts I observe the preference is not so great as it might be apprehended, for all Country Debts are not thereby preferred to all forreign Debts. The Preference is only given to Country Debts where they are of the same Degree or nature with forreign ones; as for Instance Country Bonds are ordered to be payed before forreign ones, but Country notes or Book Debts are not preferred to forreign Bonds, & indeed this preference is in practice found to be very little more than nominal, for the Act of Assembly does not make any Distinction between Residents in the Province & foreigners; but between Debts contracted in & out of the Province, so that all Bonds passed in the Province to foreigners are upon the same footing with Bonds passed to Residents, & all Book Debts contracted with Factors here are considered as Country Debts sic de similibis, & therefore there is no preference except in the few Cases where the Bonds are actually passed & delivered out of the Province or where the Demand stands merely upon the Merch^ts^ Books at home, & the facility with which Merch^ts^ may have their securities taken in the Country or their accounts setled here by their Factors makes the Distinction of very little Con-

p. 64 sequence In Effect the People of this Province have not the same advantage in the Article of paying off Dead Mens Debts that the Creditors in England have; No Merch^t^ is without a Factor here able to inform him of his Correspondents Circumstances & without gross mismanagement the Factor knows how matters stand between the Merch^t^ & the Planters especially where the Latter are the Debtors & is generally able to bring Suit for his Principal as soon as any other Creditor. The Planter has generally no other Correspondent in England than the Consignee of his Tobacco & therefore upon the Death of the Consignee, the Creditors in England must get the Preference for those who first sue when Debts are of equal nature will first obtain a Satisfaction.

As to the Merch^ts^ Declaration that that Supplementary Law (supposing it to be what it is not) or any other Law will stop their giving Credit to the Inhabitants of this Province, the People will or should say with all our hearts the less Credit they give us the better the way to keep out of a large Debt is not to credit for a small & they as well as we know that nothing ever hurt Maryland more than the great Credit that has been sometimes given us. I have written above what occurs by way of Answer to any Objections that may be made

to the Law but if this should not, on my being acquainted more particularly with the Merch^ts^ Objections I promise myself I shall be able to send an Answer entirely to His Ldps & their Satisfaction. Letter Bk. I.

I am very sorry to learn that any objections are made to the Inspection Law & especially that it is represented to be a Violation of the Act of Parliament made in Queen Anns Reign to regulate in the Plantations the Value of forreign Silver Coin with Sterling, however I hope you are long e'er this satisfied on that account for as that Law of Queen Ann only ascertains the value of forreign Silver with respect to Sterling Money, & our Clause in the Inspection Law orders only what shall be the proportion in discharging publick Debts between the Value of Guineas, forreign Gold & Silver, & our Currency, I cannot conceive that it can be construed at all repugnant to that Law; if it be I must observe that every Colony on the Continent who have paper Money have long since been guilty of a Breach of that Statute. Before Gold & Silver was ordered by the late Law to be received at the Rate therein specified as often as it shall be tendered in payment of publick Levies & Officers fees, every Person that did not make Tob^o^ (which numbers do not) was obliged to pay his Levies or Debts of a publick nature in paper Currency, which many being oftentimes not Masters of (as there is not £60000 issued & most of that in the hands of the wealthy) they were obliged to pay their Gold & Silver at any Rate their Creditors would please to affix or on such Occasions be obliged to recur to any Person that would advance paper Cash which the Possessors would not often do but on hard Terms. By this Clause in the Law that Evil is remedied, there is Gold & Silver enough in the Province for every one to discharge his publick Debts & scarcely any other Money has been since on that Account payed; this has given great Ease to the People, & all the Merch^ts^ here seem well satisfied with the Regulation as they cannot possibly be Loosers while it is left to their and any other Persons Option in Merchandizing & trading to value the several Sorts of Money as they think proper & require different Prices for their Commodities in proportion, & a wide Difference they still make between paper, & Gold or Silver Cash, tho not quite so great as before this Law took place at which time indeed £152 or a little more Currency would purchase £100^sg^ now from £155 to 160 Cur^y^ is required to purchase a Bill of that Value; but notwithstanding this Law you cannot procure such a Bill of Exchange for less than from £162. 10 to 165 & sometimes more Gold or Silver valued according to the Inspection Law, so that the Difference at least between Paper & Gold or Silver Cur^cy^ is 4 or 5 p C^t^ That paper Cash seems to be fallen so much as p. 65 p. 66

Letter Bk. I. it really is with Comparison to Bills at this time which would have somewhat depreciated the Curr^cy tho the Law had not passed; But the principal Reason of its being so much fallen in Value is to be attributed to the Usurers being less able to make Advantage of the necessities of the People by engrossing what was designed to be perpetually circulating & delivering it out at their own price to the People who could not do without a Share of it to pay their publick Levies & Taxes, but notwithstanding the Effect this Law has had on the paper Currency it is & will be still increasing till as you observe it be taken at Thirty three & a Third as valued by the Law of 1733. I cannot conclude this Topick without observing to you that the Benefits which the People have experienced from this Regulation of forreign Gold & Silver is so great as could it have been foreseen would have left no Room for the Gent^n of the upper House to hesitate a Moment in giving their Consent
p. 67 to that as soon as to any part of the Bill. You have been pleased to examine & consider the Arguments that have been at several times advanced by both parties concerning the Councillors Allowance & refer me to His Ldps Instructions, wherein His Ldp is pleased to approve of the Councils making a Concession in hopes of reconciling all Differences between the two Houses concerning their several Claims for attending the publick Service. To any Allowance as a Court of Appeals or as a Council should they happen to sit in either Capacity during any Session of Assembly, the Gent^n of the Council long since relinquished their Claims, but that Concession would by no means satisfy the Expectations of the other House who contend that the Council as a Council ought to receive no Allowance or Salary at all (unless His Ldp should think proper to reward their Services with any from his private purse) tho for their Services while discharging their Duty to their Country as an upper House they admit that they ought to receive a Recompence. even those Concessions that the Lower House insist on the Gent^n of the Council in order to conciliate a harmony are I am persuaded ready to make & to expect no Consideration at all if His Ldp should be pleased to signify such his pleasure or Inclinations. I hope you do not disapprove of my past Conduct with respect to M^r Evans; for as I had been informed that some notes relative to the Dispute concerning our Boundaries might be collected from the Records of New York, His Ldp's repeated Injunctions on me to send any papers that could be obtained having any Reference there-
p. 68 to, made me very anxious to procure them by any means; for that purpose I engaged him as he had before tendered his Service as He seemed to be somewhat acquainted with the Controversy, which no Person here of any Capacity whose

Business could have permitted his absence on so distant Service Letter Bk. I.
seems to be: But to be as secure as possible against any
Deceit, I thought proper to order him to attest whatever could
be collected from the said Records after the Manner you have
I hope e'er this seen, w^ch^ I thought would deprive him of the
power of falsifying, while the Interpreter a Man of good
Character at New York was also to authenticate the quotations
in the same manner. Upon this Service much more money
than I expected would be requisite was expended for the most
in discharging the Fees of the Office & the Expence of the
Interpreter; but the Conclusion of your Paragraph on advanc-
ing Money for the future I shall well observe & be always
careful how I subject His Ldp to any Expences without having
first received his permission or Order.—I have not by me a
Copy of that Abstract; but if I well remember that Hypothesis
of his "that Ld Baltimore & Mess^rs^ Penns at the time of
executing the Articles, considered the South Boundary of Pen-
silvania by the Patent to be in the Latitude 39°" is laid down
in order to draw therefrom a Conclusion in His Ldp's favour
concerning a Tract of Land west of the Fountain of Potowmack
& I apprehend that He might have been led to think what he p. 69
there supposes, from that Clause in the Tenth Section of the
Articles of Agreement, where speaking of the reciprocal Ces-
sions that were to be made; the Articles say "& on the other
hand The s^d^ I Penn &c do by these presents for ever renounce
& quit Claim unto the s^d^ Charles Ld Baltimore &c all preten-
sions to the Province of Maryland to be so bounded as afore-
said viz on the Northward by a due East & West Line ran 15
Miles South of Philadelphia west to the west Extremity of the
Pensilvania Territories" which Line would terminate near Ohio
somewhere about the Spot where the French have built their
Fort on Monongahela as I have endeavoured to represent by
the Sketch of that Country herewith inclosed. I do not submit
this as countenancing Evans in the least, but to introduce an
Observation which I beg leave as from myself to offer to your
notice.

If the Penns claimed by their Patent any Land South of the
Degree Forty, which we are too sensible they have done even
where that Land was vested in Ld Baltimore by a prior Patent,
what hinders their claim to that Tract of Land (represented in
the Sketch by the shade marked A) which was not disposed of
by his Majesty before the Date of their Patent; & this indeed
they do claim even away to Ohio, but if they oblige His Ldp
to abide by the Articles of Agreement; or upon any new
Agreement I think His Ldp may by the Agreement have some
pretensions to that no invaluable Country, as I apprehend that

Letter Bk. I. p. 70 is part of what is mentioned by the Penns to be by them ceded to Ld Baltimore in Lieu of what He had given up elsewhere.—Least I should not have been accurate or particular enough in a former Letter which the Tenor of His Ldps Answer by his Instructions gives me reason to fear I was not; before I give Orders for surveying more than one of the Counties I must desire your advice on that matter. By Surveying the Counties I only meant running the Out-Lines & observing the principal Rivers & Streams, not running the Courses of or resurveying every Patentees Land (which last Operation or Process I am doubtful is expected but that would cost a very considerable Sum) & by comparing the number of Acres in each County (which may be known by my intended Survey) with the Number of Acres patented from the Office & charged in the Rent Rolls, I thought one should discover in the Gross what Quantity of Land was yet vacant or occupied without the Occupants paying any Acknowledgment for the same, & by our making this publick that People would be induced to examine & look out for such vacant Lands & take out Patent for the same, this was my Scheme & it would be executed at the Expence I mentioned or a little more, which if His Ldp approves of it shall immediately be put in execution.—I have taken this Opportunity of transmitting Copies of the Laws that were enacted in the two Sessions of Assembly held last February & May as also Copies of the Proceedings of both

p. 71 Houses of Assembly at a Session held according to prorogation the 16th of July last at which time I was induced or rather obliged to meet them by the repeated Sollicitations of Govr Dinwiddie & by a piece of Intelligence that was just before brought; "that a Body of 900 French & Indians had on the 3d of July attacked the Virginia Forces amounting to about 400 Men encamped on the Back part of that Province under the Command of Colo Washington & after having killed & wounded 100 of the English obliged him to surrender on very hard terms. At the news of this Stroke many of our Back Inhabitants as well as those in Virginia & Pensilvania were so much alarmed as to talk of deserting their Habitations. This had some weight with our Assembly & they voted £6000 Curr: for the Support of the Virginians in their Enterprize; The Bill for raising the Money which I have inclosed a Copy of was lying before the Upper House when I received His Ldp's Instructions, which would have occasioned my Dissent to the Bill, had not the earnest Request of the Council & the Consideration of what fatal Consequence our refusing any longer to aid the Virginians must have been of to all the neighbouring Colonies as well as Virginia who would not be able without our Assistance to reinforce their Troops time

enough for them to look the Enemy again in the face before Letter Bk. I.
Winter: That the Lower House would suffer no Expunction
in the Bill was manifest from their late Conduct, & as that
Point with respect to the Ordinary Lycences had been conceded
by the Governor & Council heretofore in times of less immi-
nent Danger than the present there was too much Reason to p. 72
apprehend that by the Upper House's rejecting the Bill on that
Account they would have brought on the Colony severe Reflec-
tions from the neighbouring Governt^{s} I hope His Ldp will not
be displeased that I assented to the Bill upon these Considera-
tions & the Assurances of the Gent^{n} that this Bill would not at
all hinder or protract His Ldp's claiming or insisting on the
Fines upon Ordinary Lycences at the Expiration of the Law
made in 1746, by reason the Imposts laid by this Bill will sink
the £6000 before the Sum ordered to be raised by that Law
can be collected from the Duties thereby imposed. The prin-
cipal Objection too that lay against the Bills that were in the two
last Sessions rejected was in this removed, & the point then
disputed is here given in his Ldps favour; I mean the Appro-
priation of forfeitures arising from a Breach of that part of the
Law which concerns Hawkers & Pedlars, for you will be
pleased to observe that half the Forfeitures only are to be
appropriated to the uses for which the Bill is calculated, & the
other Moiety to the Informer to be recovered by Indictment on
Information in the County Court where the Offence shall be
committed; Now His Ldp being in such Case always the
Informer by his Attorney General or Clerk of Indictment the
Moiety consequently is appropriated to His Ldps Use & Dis-
posal.

Upon M^{r} Emory's Return from the Service in which I lately p. 73
engaged him I met the Gent^{n} of the Council & again repeated
his Ldp's Desire that they would advise some Boundary to be
concluded on by His Ldp with the Proprietors of Pensilvania
in case His Ldp should be disposed to come to an amicable
Agreement thereon & I also acquainted them that in order to
their being better enabled to advise what Line or Lines may
be proper for his Ldp to agree on as Divisional Lines between
his Ldp's Lands & those which the Proprietors of Pensilvania
claim on the Peninsula East of Chesopeak Bay, I ordered M^{r}
Emory to begin a Line at the Head of Elk River, & run South-
ward to the Head of the next River that falls into Chesopeak
Bay, & by measuring thence acquaint himself with the Dis-
tances between the several River Heads on the Western Side
of the Peninsula & also observe & discover how these several
River Heads would bear from each other, & from a Meridian
Line run from the Extremity of a twelve Mile Radius drawn
from the Centre of Newcastle. I informed them also that the

Letter Bk. I. Extremity of a 12 Mile Radius from Newcastle He could not certainly learn by reason the Inhabitants of that part of the Country under the Pensilvania Jurisdiction would not suffer such Radius to be measured; but that in pursuance of my Instructions He begun at a red Oak about two Miles Eastward of the main Branch of Elk River said to be marked as the Ter-

p. 74 minating Tree to a 12 Mile West Radius from Newcastle run by one M^r^ Geo: Daker in 1732 that hence, He proceeded according to Order so far Southward as Choptank Bridge & from such actual Survey had discovered (as is delineated on his Map) that a Due North & South Line begun from the aforesaid Tree does intersect first two small Branches of Christine Creek, then leaving the principal Branch of Elk considerably to the westward, it cuts at about forty perches below their Mill Dams where a Canoe in a high Tide will pass, three small Streams called Evans's Broad, & Back Creeks which flow into that River: the said Line afterwards intersects two small Branches of Bohemia just above the Landing beyond which a Canoe will in a high Tide go about a quarter of a Mile. Sassafras River is left entirely to the Westward of this Line; but it crosses Chester far above Chester Bridge where the Run of Water is very inconsiderable; as Choptank terminates in a Swamp soon after one passes above its Bridge, this Line does not at all affect the navigation of that River; neither doth it approach near to the navigable water in the north west Fork of Nanticoke; but the North East Fork of that River where it is intersected by the Parallel of Latitude run from Indian River is found to be Six perches wide & Six Feet deep so that a large Sea Sloop will load within two Miles South of said Paralel & that Branch is navigable for small Craft two miles farther North than the place where the said Paralel intersects it.

p. 75 After some time deliberating on this Map of Emory's & comparing the Distance supposed by him to be between Elk & Newcastle with the Distance which it was I am told (for certified I cannot get it) found to be some years since on an Actual Resurvey & Mensuration of the several Tracts or Parcells of Land occupied by Claimants under Pensilvania Jurisdiction, (a Draught of which I herewith transmit) the Gent^n^ agreed with me to submit to his Ldps Consideration if a Composition is thought of the following Proposals for dividing the Peninsula East of Chesopeak Bay between his Ldp & the Proprietors of Pensilvania—Be a due East & West Line run as in Emorys Map across the Peninsula from Indian River & from a Point of such Line two Furlongs (or more as can be agreed) eastward of the North East Fork of Nanticoke where it is intersected by said East & West Line, let a Line be run North or

North two Degrees West at farthest (variation being allowed for) till it touches Newcastle Circle & if Mess^rs^ Penns refuse to have such Line (being a Secant of the Circle) continued direct northward as a Boundary between the Territories or three lower Counties & Maryland (which should be contended for) Let a due North Line be run from the Extremity of a Newcastle 12 Mile Radius to the present temporary Line or any other Line that may be agreed on by the Proprietaries as a North Boundary to this Province & South Boundary to that of Pensilvania, & let all the Land included within the Newcastle Circle be ceded to Mess^rs^ Penns & all the Land westward of the said Secant & said Meridian run from the Extremity of the Newcastle Radius & without the Perephery of the Circle be confirmed by Mess^rs^ Penn to Ld Baltimore.—You will be pleased to observe that we could not have any Certainty with respect to the Radius from Newcastle on which the Position of the Perephery depends, so that should the Peninsula prove less that 14 miles wide from Newcastle to the Meridian of the Easternmost part of the Branch of Elk River (which is the Distance supposed to be between them & allowed in Emory's Map) the perephery of the Circle may possibly affect the three Creeks that flow into Elk River if not Elk itself. This Deficiency in our knowledge you will perceive is also taken notice of in the Resolve of the Council of which as it contains also my Sentiments I herewith transmit you a Copy. As it appears from M^r^ Cressaps Map lately transmitted that the present temporary Line does not intersect any navigable water there does not seem to be any Room for us to advise on that point, because you can have as clear & distinct an Idea of the Benefits that this Province would receive from being extended farther than the Temporary Line Northw^d^ as any Person resident on the Spot can possibly have. Letter Bk. I. p. 76

I have obeyed his Ldps Instruction whereby I was ordered to constitute M^r^ Dulany joint Commissary with M^r^ Tasker & acquainted them with His Ldp's Desire & Expectations from them in what relates to you, & all the other Instructions which His Ldp has been pleased to give, shall always be answered with my most punctual Obedience. p. 77

As His Ldp has signified an earnest Desire to have some more Tracts of Land erected into mannours in the several parts of the Province, I beg leave to acquaint you that in 1669 a considerable Extent of Country was laid out on Nanticoke & Choptank Rivers & appropriated by Act of Assembly afterwards to the use of a Nation of Indians inhabiting there till they should be extinct or choose to desert it at which Period of time it should revert to the Ld Proprietary excepting any Part or parcel of it that might before that time have been patented, which part will then return to the lawful Heir if any be: you will be

Letter Bk. I. pleased to acquaint My Lord therewith, & as these Indians may possibly in a few years be no more, His Ldp will perhaps be pleased to erect it into a Manour before that time tho he cannot sett any Parcells of it out to Tenants till it be by the present Inhabitants entirely relinquished—As there are some Persons in the Province who have offered to apply & take out Lycence for Piloting in the Rivers of this Province, upon Condition His Ldp will forbid & prevent all other Persons who do not take Lycence from engaging themselves as Pilots to navigate Vessels up & down the several Rivers as well as the Bay; You will be pleased to direct me how to proceed in this
p. 78 Affair & what Steps must be taken to prevent any Person not having Lycence from acting in that Capacity: If the Merch^ts would order all their Captains to take none but Lycenced Pilots where such are to be had, or if a Policy of Insurance could ever be forfeited by the Masters Refusal to take a Lycenced Pilot where such a one was to be procured we should find little Difficulty in executing his Ldps Instructions on this Head, but if that be not Merchant Law & the Merch^ts will not comply with the first Supposition, You will oblige me with your Opinion & that of the Lawyers, whether His Ldp by his Prerogative cannot forbid & prevent any Persons piloting without Lycence, for unless such a Prohibition can be laid, no person will apply for, or accept any Lycence at all, & if this be determined as I hope it will, you will be pleased also to acquaint me with the Mode (that may be advised) or manner of prosecuting or punishing such as shall continue to pilot in Opposition to His Ldp's Prohibition, & you may be assured there shall on my part be no Delay in asserting his Ldp's Right & Prerogative.

In my Letter dated last February I observed to you that it had been found impracticable to disposses Persons of any Surplusage Land, which they hold by Patents, in which such Land is described by natural Boundaries, tho the Patents should err considerably in the number of Acres contained therein many Persons that were willing to join to their Tract some
p. 79 contiguous Land have taken out Warrant of Resurvey for the Original Tract with Lycence to include any adjacent Vacancy in their Resurvey; but there are I find by strict Enquiry among the Inhabitants many Gent^n who hold large Tracts of Land as Surplus under extensive old Patents, who never will resurvey the same upon the Conditions that are at present insisted on by the Agent before He grants Warrant of Resurvey; who requires on such Occasions the Arrearages for such Surplus from the Date of the Patent: but if His Ldp would permit the Patentee to have Warrant of Resurvey for his Land, upon Condition he shall pay for the Surplus henceforward at the original reserved Rent, there are none hardly in possession of Surplus Land I am well informed but would immediately take

out Warrant of Resurvey. This would be an immediate & Letter Bk. I.
perpetual Increase of His Ldps Revenue from Quit Rents & I submit to your Consideration whether it would not be much for his Ldps Advantage, as it would also make pretty well known what Vacancy there is in each County. I have hinted my Opinion hereon to Col° Lloyd & desired he will against our next meeting consider of it that we may be then able to write more particularly on this Matter.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

9th Augst 1754.

Sir

You will be pleased herewith to receive 4 Bills of Exchange for £125. which I hope will be paid without hesitation. I have p. 80
also taken the Liberty to commit to your Care the Writings that Mr Brerewood desired me to send him. The Pacquet to —— Cleveland Esq Secy to the Admiralty which contains a small quantity of money for some Mediterranean Passes & some old papers that are out of Date you will I am persuaded be kind enough to have carefully delivered at his Office. I have also inclosed for his Ldp & you a State of the present Offices held under his Ldps Governt noting their respective Values p Ann. The Plan is not quite perfect by reason some Accident has prevented my being informed of the Value of a few of the Offices, wch I will however endeavour to learn as soon as possible & acquaint you therewith. No Gratitude is wanting on Mr Ridouts part for your kind Disposition to serve him which nothing but the fear of being thought presumptuous or impertinent hindered him from expressing to you himself—I have given His Ldp a pretty particular Account of the Campaign that the Virginians have made this Summer on the Back of these Provinces but leave it to your Care to acquaint His Ldp with what I have writ concerning his private Affairs as well as the publick Transactions in this Govert & to know that His Ldp & you approve of the Part I have acted therein would most sensibly delight—

Sir Yr. — —

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] p. 81

2d of Septr 1754.

My Lord

As nothing worthy notice has occurred in the short time that has elapsed since I lately had the honour of writing to your Ldp but every thing both in & on the Frontiers of your Ldps Province in the same Situation they then were I have not any

Letter Bk. I. thing to trouble your Ldp with at present but a Request that your Ldp will be pleased to accept of a Pipe of Madeira Wine herewith sent from your Ldps mo^{t} obliged & mo^{t} devoted Servant.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

2^{d} of Sept^{r} 1754. transmitted by Capt. Creagh.

S^{r}

Herewith you will be pleased to receive Duplicates of all the Laws which were passed in the two Sessions of Assembly that were held at Annapolis in Feb^{y} & May last & I have also by this same Conveyance transmitted Copies of all the Laws being twelve in number which were enacted in the last Session at Annapolis concluded the 25th of July as every one of them are only reviving & continuing Acts except that for his Majestys Service of which I before transmitted a Copy with some Observations in a Letter thereon; there does not seem to be any farther room for noticing or remarking upon those that are now inclosed. The short time that has intervened
p. 82 since I writ last, has not afforded new matter for another Lett^{r} but lest there should seem to be any Contrariety between a Clause in my last & a Paragraph in my Lett^{r} of Feb^{y} I beg leave to observe that when I intimated in that first Lett^{r} that the Sum of Money ordered to be sunk by the Law concerning Ordinaries passed in 1746 might in a year or two be expected to be discharged by the said Law, I had received such information from the Gent^{n} whom I consulted thereon, but in reality found by the Scrutiny & Examination which the Lower House have since made & Submitted to me, that the Gent^{n} had been out three or four years in their Calculation. I have not yet heard any thing of M^{r} Copp mentioned in His Ldps Instructions of January, nor of the Rev^{d} M^{r} Rosse of whom you spake in your favour of April the 17th Affairs with respect to the Disturbances on the back of these Provinces are in the same Situation they were in at the time of my last writing, the French are strengthening themselves & building several Forts on Monongahela & Ohio, & we learn they have begun one on Green Brier River which is actually within Augusta County in Virginia & is pretty well inhabited by English Settlers. The French it seems claim to the very Fountain Heads of Monongahela, Youghyoghgyina & all the Streams flowing into Ohio or Missisippi, so that their Pretensions extend to a great number of Acres within this Province which I am afraid no Person will be prevailed on to take up till the French be obliged to relinquish the Forts they have already built on those Rivers. Pensilvania will lose a vast quantity of Land if their

incroachments are not suppressed & prevented, yet nothing have they contributed toward supporting the Cause; but New York Gov^t has voted for the Gov^r of Virginia's use five thousand Pounds, & it is expected the Assembly of Virginia which is now sitting will pass an Act for 20,000 or 30000£ at least; in that Case I hope with our Assistance Gov^r Dinwiddie will be able to make a vigorous Effort before Winter & repulse these Troops, whose Progress has already strangely terrified our back Inhabitants, many of whom conceive themselves in immediate Danger. Our Company is near half compleated & I purpose soon to order them out to the Frontiers of Frederick County, where Col° Cressap has contracted to supply them with Provisions. I have given the Command thereof to one Capt. Dagworthy a Gent^n born in the Jerseys, who commanded a Company raised in that Province for the Canada Expedition since the miscarriage of which he has resided in this Province upon an Estate which he purchased in Worcester County; I have placed under him 3 Lieutenants & I hope our Company will not in any respect make the worst Appearance of any on the Expedition. Inclosed are Seconds of four Bills of Exch. sent with my last to the amount of £125 which I hope you will safely receive, & I will for the future send my Bills rather before the Day appointed if possibly I can, lest the Delay of them should at any time put you to inconvenience which would give very great uneasiness to S^r &c

Letter Bk. I. p. 83

I have taken the Liberty to direct for his Ldp a pipe of the best Madeira wine that I could procure, w^ch I hope his Ldp will do me the honour to accept & you will be kind enough upon the Captains Application to let him have the inclosed Bill of Lading to get it signed & returned me. H S.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Original.

Virg^a Williamsburg Sept^r 5^th 1754

S^r

Y^r kind fav° of the 20^th of Aug^st I rec^d & should have answered before this, but waited the result of our assembly, which I prorogu'd yesterday, after doing Nothing to support the present Expedition.

On their first meeting they seemed greatly inclined to give a handsom supply, I pressed the absolute Necessity thereof with all the Interest I had & they accordingly voted 20,000 which gave me much Pleasure; but the Day after, on the third reading of the Bill, they loaded it with a Rider for paying Payton Randolph Esq^r (the Person they sent Home to complain against me) £2500, as the Council had formerly rejected a

Resolve for that sum, they could not in Hon^{r} pass this as a Rider to a Money Bill for a Supply to His Majesty which is inconstitutional & therefore rejected it. I took all the Pains in my Power to convince them of the Irregularity of their Proceedings by acquainting them that the Resolve for that sum with their other resolves, lay now with the King & Council; it was therefore out of our Hands & we could not meddle with it till we heard the Determination of the Council thereon; but all the Arguments I cou'd use availed Nothing, they were obstinate & by no means wou'd send the Bill without the Rider to the Council, on which I was obliged to prorogue them till the 17th of October, when I hope they will come in better Temper; & before that Time I expect a Kings Ship with M^{r} Dobbs Gov^{r} of N. Carolina, & by him probably shall have Acc^{t} of all the Affairs that lie before the Council.

The Plan of operations that I proposed for this Fall are entirely defeated. 1st By the N. Carolina Forces disbanding themselves; which was occasioned by a monstrous mismanagement of them from the Beginning: They raised 12,000 the President of that Colony gave the private Men 3/ Procl^{a} Money p Day, & the officers in Proportion, so that their Money was wholly expended before they joined the other Forces, & wou'd serve no longer without Assurance of the above Pay; This is monstrous ill Conduct, & the more so, because I wrote the President the Establishment of the Pay of our Forces. Next is the reduction of the Number of our regiment those killed & the Wounded unfit for Service, & Desertion, which has reduced their Number to 150.—If the 20,000 had passed, I fully intended to augment our regiment to eight Companies of 70 Men each, which, with officers wanted, wou'd have made 600 Men, & in course made up the Deficiency occasioned by the N. Carolina People; but the obstinacy of our Assembly has defeated my Intentions, & am now perswaded that no Expedition can be conducted here, with Dependence on American Assemblies, I have therefore wrote to that Purpose Home, & have proposed a British Act of Parliament, to compell the Subjects here to obedience to His Majesty's Comands, & to protect their Properties from the Insults of the French, by proper supplies & a vigorous resistance, who no doubt will take advantage of our Divisions, & I much dread their Incursions among our Inhabitants this Winter.

Under these great Disappointments, I determine to keep the few People we have in Pay; & propose one hundred of them to march to Wills's Creek, to join the Independ^{t} Companies, & to endeavour to secure a Pass over the Allegany Mountains by erecting a Fort leaving a sufficient Number of Men therein with a proper Quantity of Provisions to facilitate our operations next

Spring, which is all I think possible to be done now, but I shall be greatly obliged for your advice herein; as I am sensible of your Knowledge in Military Affairs.

I have earnestly wrote Home for Assistance of Men & Money, with[t] which I dread our Success; as also for a proper Supply of Ordnance Stores for we have none here suited for a Campaign or a Siege, which will be much wanted to dispossess the French of the Fort at Monongehela.

I have Complaints from our Frontiers in Augusta County of many Parties of Indians &c. Robbing & ill treating our People, have therefore ordered a Comp[a] of our Regiment there to assist & protect them.

A Governor in the Discharge of His Duty to his King & Country, is much to be pitied, when it's considered his Transactions with an obstinate Assembly; full of their own opinions, & entirely deaf to Arguments & reason; I assure you I am heartily fatigued & quiet weary with the unjust opposition to every Thing proposed to them for the Gen[l] Good, & without the Government take some Steps to assist us I fear the Consequence from the indefatigable Motions of the Enemy.

The Establishment of the Pay to your Forces I think very equitable I have ordered Col[o] Innes to take Possession of the Ohio Company's Warehouse which will make a very good Magazine, & we had better pay rent than begin to build, have directed a Breast Work & the great Guns to be mounted for Defence; & if they can build a Shed round it, may be proper for the Soldiers to lodge in; & to proceed to the Mountains to build a Fort to secure a Pass by the Time we can collect a sufficient Force to attack the Enemy, to do it with the few Men we have, I think would be sacrificing their Lives.

I am glad you have directed the opening the new road from Rock Creek, which must be of great Service. I am an entire Stranger to the back Country, but have desired Col[o] Innes to get the best Information he can & to write me fully thereon— There is no Doubt but the French will do all in their Power to stop the Passes over the Mountains & endeavour to intercept our Provisions &c[a] I therefore am of opinion with our handfull of Men, we can only be on the Defensive till we increase our Numbers; & would willingly hope on next Meeting of our Assembly, they will more seriously consider their danger, & grant a Supply without any Clogg; but really their Behaviour this Session gives me a bad opinion of them.

Your Scheme is very just & intirely agreeable to me, but without Men & Money I cannot tell how to conduct myself & indeed it gives me very real Concern—

You may please to direct your Men for two Months as you may think most suitable, after that, the Season of the Year will

prevent any Thing further to be done; but if I can obtain a Supply from our Assembly, I wou'd propose raising our Numb^{r} as before & to be at Wills's Creek in Feb^{ry} to be ready for Action before the French can be reinforc'd from Quebeck, as I understand they cannot come down the rivers till the end of Aprill or Beginning of May—Pray under our present bad situation & Disappointm^{t} be so kind to give me y^{r} candid Advice how to Act, for I really am oppress'd with Concern on the Conduct of our Assembly.

I remain with very great Esteem & just regard

Y^{r} Excellency's
Most obedient hble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

P. S. If a few of your Men were ordered to Wills's Creek to join the other Forces may probably facilitate their undertakings either in building a Fort or other Services.

Letter Bk. I. p. 84

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

15th of Sept^{r} 1754 transmitted also by Capt Creagh—

S^{r}

In my Letter of the 2^{d} I made known to you our general Expectations from the Virginia Assembly who were then convened: since which time I have been informed by Governor Dinwiddie that all his Endeavours to incite them to advance a Sum of Money for the Expedition have proved unsuccesful. Soon after their meeting it seems they voted £20,000 for the Service but in preparing a Bill for that purpose they inserted a Clause for Discharging £2500 which had been advanced by the Speaker & several Members to the Attorney Genl. at his Embarkation for England. This was look't on by the Gover^{r} & Council as a most extravagant Requisition, The Bill was accordingly rejected & the Governor thereupon thought proper to prorogue them to the 17th of October in hopes of receiving by that time some farther Instructions from home for his Conduct, if not Men or Money for the Service. This Accident has removed all thoughts of any thing's being done or attempted against the French this Summer. The most our Forces can execute will be the building a Fort to secure a Pass thro the Mountains which might facilitate our Operations next Spring,
p. 85 this I beleive will be the Business of the three independant Companies from New York & South Carolina amounting to about 260 Men. The North Carolina Companies are all excepting 40 or 50 Men disbanded; the Money that was granted for their Subsistance being nearly expended. & the 300 Vir-

ginia Soldiers are by the late Engagement by Deaths & by Desertion reduced to 140; 100 of whom the Governor will order out as a flying Camp to protect the Frontiers of Virginia this Winter; & the other rendezvous at Wills Creek, whither our 50 Men (for upon the Receipt of Gov[r] Dinwiddies Lett[r] I declined compleating the Company) are also sent to discipline themselves till there is a prospect of our acting with any probability of Success, when I propose to render the Company perfect which can be done at any time in 3 weeks or a month. This perverseness of the Virginia Assembly has induced the Gover[r] to apply home as I am told some other Governors have also done for an Act of the British Legislature to be obligatory upon all the Govern[ts] equally, & compel them to contribute their Quotas for the Defence & Protection of their Properties & His Majesty's American Dominions against any intruding Enemies. If it should be thought proper to bring in a Bill for that purpose the next Session of Parliament it is possible if not probable that one of these Methods might be proposed for raising a Fund in the several Provinces. By imposing an equal Poll Tax or By a Duty on the Importation of Spirituous Liquors & Wines or an Excise on such as may be either imported to or made on the Continent which indeed I think the most preferable; Or By a Stamp Duty or something similar to it on Deeds & Writings if such a Proposal as this last mentioned should be made, it would be well to guard against any Words being incerted in the Bill, that may be construed to affect Patents for Land; & it would I conceive be proper for the Law to order the Enrollment of all Deeds of Bargain & Sale & to invalidate all Deeds of Trust unless they be also properly stamped & enrolled as well as Deeds of Sale in the Provincial or County Clerks Office, where I apprehend the Stamp or Seal ought to be lodged. Deeds of Bargain & Sale are indeed ordained to be enrolled already by a Law of this Province passed in 1715: but to avoid the Loss that would attend a Non-Enrollment & at the same time to excuse themselves from an Alienation Fine to his Ldp: Deeds of Trust are many times given by the Inhabitants which are equivalent to a Deed of Sale enrolled & moreover can be given or received without the Parties satisfying the Fine due to His Ldp where Lands are thereby conveyed: This is an Evil which will never I am afraid be provided against by a Maryland Assembly but would be easily prevented by such an Act of Parliament which would in that respect render his Ldp some Benefit & Service. These Hints I have taken the Liberty to submit to you in Case the British Legislature should think proper to interfere in this American Contention more than it has hitherto done—& I beg leave also to ask your Sentiments (upon the Supposition that it

Letter Bk. I.

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Letter Bk. I. might hereafter be practicable to procure a Law to oblige the Sheriffs to collect His Ldp's Quit Rents at the same Rate as is allowed them for publick Debts & Levies (at present 6 ℔ C^{t}) whether His Ldp would be inclined or averse to accepting a Law of that nature

I am S^{r} &c

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter to His Lordsp given M^{r} Calvert to transmit by M^{r} Gallaway dated 27 Sept 1754.

My Lord

M^{r} Calvert having expressed to me great Apprehensions that some one or other has taken the Liberty to misrepresent his Behaviour & Conduct to your Ldp and shewn much uneasiness on that Account, at the same time desiring me candidly to submit to your Ldp my sentiments with respect to his Conduct since my Arrival in the Province hoping a fair Representation thereof might advance him in your Ldps favour & good Graces: Your Ldp will excuse me for troubling you at
p. 88 this time by assuring your Ldp that for my Part I am entirely ignorant of any Transaction of M^{r} Calvert but such as shews him to have your Ldps Interest at heart neither has he since I have known him by any means opposed such measures as have been proposed for the Advancement of your Ldps Service.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Sept^{r} 1754. Transmitted by M^{r} Gallaway in Capt. Biggs.

Sir:

Your Favour by M^{rs} Graham who I learn is safe arrived, I have just now received & have immediately thereupon in Obedience to His Ldps Pleasure ordered Comm^{n} to be made out to M^{r} Charles Graham as Naval Officer of Pocomoke, & have sent to him desiring to see him at Annapolis to give the usual Security & enter upon his Office; I have spoke to M^{r} Tasker about the Office of Surveyor Gen^{l} of the Eastern Shore which he has held only nominally & after I have taken an early opportunity of seeing M^{rs} Graham I will either appoint M^{r} Graham to the Office or if M^{rs} Graham chooses let the place be still held by Col^{o} Tasker but take care that the futur: profitts as well as the Arrears of that Office be paid to here This I shall do with very great pleasure as well in Obedience
p. 89 to His Ldps Will & your Desire as out of regard to M^{rs} Graham herself to whose Ease & happiness I shall receive the

greatest Satisfaction from contributing. Mr Tasker informs me Letter Bk. I.
that He remitted some Months since & hopes you have eer this received what you were pleased to mention to me in the Postscript to your last Letter. Affairs on our Frontiers are just in the same Situation that I described in my Letter of the 15th Inst & I beleive must so remain unless any measures that may be taken at home shall afford us a better Prospect.

With Duplicates of the Laws enacted at the last Session of Assembly I have inclosed a Plat of the Mannour called Lady Baltimores Mannour or Lord Baltimores Gift in Baltimore County hoping you will be able to find & transmit the Original Patent which might prevent some Disputes that will very probably otherwise arise from I doubt an Error of the Clerk who recorded the Surveyors Certificate of the Limitts of the Mannour in the Land Office; for in a Deed of Sale to Mr Brerewood of this Mannour signed by Thomas Brerewood Jun. & Charlotte Brerewood dated the 31st of August 1731 The Mannour Bounds are described to be different from those Specified in the said Surveyors Certificate. I have inclosed a Platt of the Mannour to shew more clearly in what the Boundaries differ which is only with respect to one Course noted in the Platt C. D. described by the Surveyors Return to extend 420 Perches by Mr Brerewoods Deed only 120 Perches.

The Mannour has always been deemed & looked upon by p. 90
every Body till lately to be limited as it is represented to be by the dotted red Lines & His Ldp has always received the Rents from the several Tenants who are setled on the Land marked A A which is fertil & better than any other Part of the Mannour; but some time since the Person whose Tract by Patent is situate & lies close on that part of the Mannour having searched the Land Office & found the Surveyors original Description of the Courses at the time the Mannour was erected, insists that the Land A A belongs to him & is included in his Patent, whereupon He has thought proper to enjoin the several Tenants thereon inhabiting to pay no more Rent for the Land they cultivate to any Person but himself or his Order. This being the Case you will be pleased to direct what must be done in the Affair if the Original patent cannot be found which would at once remove all foundation of Dispute. I have at Mr Calverts Sollicitation given him a Letter which I have taken the liberty to write to his Ldp; declaring myself entirely ignorant of & unacquainted with any Behaviour or Transactions of his, contrary to his Ldps Interest since my Arrival in his Ldps Province; which Mr Calvert was apprehensive had been unfairly represented to his Prejudice, & as there is a very good understanding between us notwithstanding the Affair I

Letter Bk. I. took the Liberty in my Letters dated feb^{y} 10th to represent to his Ldp & yourself, I could not upon his Request refuse to
p. 91 submit to his Ldp the Contents of the abovementioned Letter. Herewith you will be pleased to receive an Account of the Exportations from this Province in the year 1753. I did intend to have sent a similar account of the Importations, & made a Calculation of the Number of Seamen employed in the Trade of the Province & as far as Possible stated the Ballance of Trade between us & the several Places we trade to, but it being not compleat I hope you will excuse my deferring to transmit it till the next opportunity of Conveyance.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter to His Ldp inclosing one to S^{r} Tho^{s} Robinson dated at Williamsburg in Virginia Oct^{r} 25. 1754.

My Lord

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Ldp's Commission & private Instruction bearing Date the 6th of July together with His Majesty's gracious Commission to me to take the Command of the Forces that shall be raised on this part of the Continent to protect his Majesty's Dominions from the Encroachments & Devastations of his presumptuous Enemies. Having endeavoured to express my gratitude for His Majestys favour in a Lett^{r} to S^{r} Tho^{s} Robinson which your Lordsp will be pleased to deliver, I beg your Ldp will not refuse at the same time to accept my thanks & most grateful Acknowledgments for your Ldp's kind Indulgence to me & so readily consenting to dispense with my attendance on the
p. 92 Administration of your Ldp's Govern^{t} in Case His Majesty's Commands & Service should require my Absence from your Ldps Province. I have taken the Liberty to inclose your Ldp a Copy of my Letter to His Majestys Secretary of State & to acquaint your Ldps Secretary with the Steps I have taken & am about to follow in pursuance of your Lordship's permitting me to accept His Majestys Commission. Your Ldp will not I hope entertain the least Apprehensions that your Ldps Interest or Service may be in any respect neglected by my acceptance of His Majestys Commission or that I will ever whether present in or absent from the Province desist from endeavouring to promote to the utmost of my power your Ldp's Interest & honour & the welfare of your Ldps Province & at all times to pay the most punctual Obedience to whatever Instructions & Commands you may at any time be pleased to have signified to your Ldp's most devoted &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I.

Williamsburg in Virginia Oct^{r} 25. 1754.
transmitted by Capt. Yuill.

S^{r}

I have taken this Opportunity of requesting His Ldp to present to Sir Tho^{s} Robinson my Acknowledgment for His Majestys Commission (which I have lately been honored with) in a p. 93
Letter of which I have inclosed His Ldp a Copy in one which you will be pleased to present to himself Governor Dobbs who brought me His Majesty's & His Ldps Commission dated the 6th of July with your kind Favour of the same Date arrived at this Place but the 7th Inst. The Garland Man of War having met with a very severe Storm off of this Coast (in which Her Main-Mast was carried away by the Board) that prevented her reaching Virginia in less than 12 weeks after her Departure from Spithead. As soon as Governor Dinwiddie signified to me that M^{r} Dobbs was arrived & that His Majesty's Pleasure would be obeyed by my coming to Williamsburg before Gover^{r} Dobbs should depart for North Carolina I immediately took the Liberty to leave Annapolis & came hither the 19th Inst. where I have been entirely taken up ever since in consulting with those Gent^{n} on the most expedient Measures for promoting His Majesty's Service & in making preparations for putting those measures in Execution. As you will have submitted to your perusal the Copy of my Letter to Sir Tho^{s} Robinson I hope I shall be excused for not mentioning what Plan of Operations is agreed on here, & for hastening to pay you my most sincere thanks for the favour of your kind Letter & your earnest wishes for my Success & Prosperity therein so ardently expressed. You will do me the Justice to believe p. 94
that your kind Remembrance of me to get my name mentioned to His Majesty makes no slight Impression on my mind; & you will not I flatter myself in the least doubt but it will be always my constant Study to deserve the Continuance of a Share of your Esteem & Regard, as well as to approve myself not entirely unworthy of the honour that His Majesty has been pleased to confer on me. You will be obliging enough to assure His Lordship that I will not in the least neglect His Ldps Affairs & that in case I do at any time absent myself from His Ldp's Province for a short time I will not fail to leave the President such of his Ldps & other Instructions as may be requisite & conducive to the Advancement of His Ldp's honour & Interest & the good Administration of the Affairs of his Government. Your Desire that I will keep up a frequent Correspondence with yourself I will most punctually comply with & will let slip no opportunity of acquainting

Letter Bk. I. you as well as his Ldp with our Transactions in the Field or what plan of Operations we may at any time propose to persue. The Assembly of this Province are now met & have voted the Sum of £20000 Gold Curr^y^ for the Encouragement of the Service which Sum with the money remitted Governor Denwiddie from home & the £5000 granted by the Province of New York will enable us to compleat 700 Men exclusive of the independant Companies immediately & I do not despair
p. 95 of finding at my Return the Gentlemen of our Assembly disposed to make an Addition to the £6000 which they were induced at their last Meeting to grant & I hope the other neighbouring Colonies will no longer decline joining heartily in the Service, tho I am indeed still apprehensive that nothing of very great importance can be effected unless we are supported with some Troops from home which I most earnestly wish His Majesty & Council would think proper to order over that our unquiet aspiring Enemy might perceive that their Vicinity to these Parts of His Majesty's Dominions will be on no account connived at or endured. As I propose to leave this Place Monday or Tuesday next & by the first Opportunity that shall offer after my Return to Annapolis to write again I will hope to be excused for not protracting this Letter farther than to assure you that I am with the highest Respect & Esteem &c.

Letter Bk. II. p. 3

[Sharpe to Sir Thomas Robinson.]

Williamsburg in Virginia Oct^r^ 25^th^ 1754.

Right Honourable

I take the Liberty by this first Opportunity most gratefully to acknowledge the Receipt of His Majesty's most gracious Favour which was presented me by Gover^r^ Dobbs last Saturday together with a Letter which yourself was pleased to honour me with the 5^th^ of July. I intreat you to assure His Majesty that no one can be more truly sensible of the honour He has been pleased to confer on me than I am & that it shall be my constant Study & Endeavour to manifest the most dutiful & punctual Obedience to His Royal Pleasure now signified to me & to whatever future Commands & Instructions I may have the Satisfaction to receive. On Governor Dinwiddies intimating to me the Receival of His Majestys Orders I immediately set out for this place to take his Advice how I may best execute the Commission I found myself honoured with, for His Majestys Service & to consult with him about taking the most expedient measures for the Defence of His Majestys Dominions on the Continent at this time & with the

small Force that we shall be able to collect this Winter or early Letter Bk. II.
in the ensuing Spring.

In pursuance of His & Governor Dobbs's Advice & Approbation I propose if possible to raise 700 Men immediately who will I hope (if a very severe Season does not soon set in) be able in Conjunction with the 3 Independant Companies to carry the Fort called Fort Du Quesne which the French have built upon the River Monongahela before a Reinforcement can be p. 4
sent the Garrison from Canada or the French Settlements in that part of the Continent which they call Louisiana. This one Scheme & erecting a Fortress which we conceive absolutely necessary on an Island in the River Ohio opposite to Duquesne Fort is all that I can entertain very sanguine hopes of being able to execute with so small a number of Men as will I apprehend (unless some Draughts be sent from England) compleat the Corps that will be under my Direction; as most of these will be required in Case our Enterprize succeeds, to garrison the two Forts above mentioned & one that is already begun at a Place called Wills-Creek on Potomack River, designed to be a Magazine for the Troops that shall be employed in the Service; But if the several Colonies should be persuaded to increase our American Forces enough in the Spring to afford us a Prospect of making a succesful Attempt upon the Fort that the French have compleated on Buffaloe River near Lake Erie you will be pleased to think that I will with the greatest Alacrity prosecute that Service tho I must at present confess that the Strength of the Enemy in those parts, their superiour knowledge of the Country which is likely to be the Scene of Action & their numerous Alliances among the Indian nations forbid me to flatter myself unless the Colonies grant Supplies beyond my Expectations with hopes of any very important Successes against our Enemy, who are strengthened by unanimity among themselves, upon this Consideration I cannot indeed but entertain some Suspicion that these His Majestys Dominions can never be effectually secured from the Encroachments of the French & Devastations of their Indian Allies, farther Hostilities on our distant & scattered Inhabitants & p. 5
such Indians as may venture to declare in our favour be prevented & a free Trade with the natives which we are now threatened to be entirely deprived of ensured to us unless the Enemy be compelled to relinquish at once the several Fortresses that they have built on the Lakes & Rivers behind us & we take possession of & garrison them ourselves. But as I look on this as too great a Design to be executed or ever attempted with such Assistance & Supplies only as the several Colonies will be prevailed on to advance without they be supported by such a Body of Troops from home as I dare not

Letter Bk. II. presume to hope for the Direction of I forbear saying any more on such a Scheme but confine my hopes, with a Resolution to endeavour to shew myself not entirely unworthy of the Charge with which His Majesty has been pleased already to entrust me & to remove if possible the Fears of Danger from His Majestys Subjects setled in this part of the Continent with which they are at present not a little affected, tho I must confess I am not without Apprehensions that if the Enemy shall find us superiour to them here they will bend their Force against his Majesty's Dominions on Ontario Lake the Mohocks & Hudsons River which are I am afraid but too open & exposed & may become too easy a Conquest unless the Six Indian nations will heartily join the Inhabitants of New York & defend the Frontiers of that Province at least till we are able to send them our Aid & Assistance, that I have in the preceeding part of this Letter mentioned some places without giving an Accurate Description of their Situation & Distance you will be pleased to attribute to my having hitherto wanted
p. 6 the opportunity of getting Intelligence of the Situation as well as Strength of the Enemy's Forts & Settlements on the Lakes, Rivers, & inland Country which have offered themselves to His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor of Virginia to whom I must beg Liberty to leave that part till my hopes are gratified which I indulge myself in of being able very shortly to write more particularly & satisfactorily thereon myself. As there is great Room to fear that the Disputes which have arisen & still subsist between the Independant Companies & the Troops which the Colonies have raised on this Occasion may be carried to such a Length as to distress the Service unless some Remedy be timely applied. I humbly hope that what Governor Dinwiddie writes on this matter will be thought to deserve some Consideration & that you will be pleased by your Instructions to remove this Evil for the future & till Governor Dinwiddie or myself be honoured therewith I will do my utmost Endeavour to remove & prevent all animosities between them which I dread as certain Obstructions to his Majestys Service. Permit me once more to declare that it shall be my constant Study to Conduct myself so as to deserve the Continuance of the favourable Opinion you have been pleased to conceive of me & by every Means approve myself

Honble Sir Your mo. devoted &c.

Letters were also writ at the same time to Lord Baltimore & M^{r} Calvert.

[Robinson to Sharpe.] Original.

Whitehall Oct^r 26^th 1754.

Sir

Having informed you in my Letter of July 5^th That the King had under His Royal Consideration the State of Affairs in North America; I am now to acquaint you, That amongst other Measures, that are thought proper, for the Defence of His Majesty's just Rights and Dominions, in those Parts, The King has not only been pleased to order two Regiments of Foot, consist^g of 500 Men each, besides commissioned and non-Commissioned Officers, commanded by Sir Peter Halkett & Col: Dunbar, to repair to Virginia, & to be there augmented to the Number of 700 Each; but likewise, to send Orders to Gov^r Shirley, and Sir W^m Pepperell, to raise Two Regiments, whereof they are, respectively, appointed Colonels of 1000 Men each; and also, to sign Commissions for a Number of Officers to serve in the said Two Regiments, & who will forthwith repair to North America, for that purpose.

Whereas there will be wanting a considerable Number of Men to make up the designed Complements of the said Four Regiments; It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that you should be taking the previous Steps towards contributing, as far as you can, to have about Three Thousand Men, in readiness to be enlisted; And it is His Majesty's Intention, That a General Officer of Rank & Capacity to be appointed to command in Chief all the Kings Forces in North America, a Deputy Quarter Master General, and a Commissary of the Musters shall set out, as soon as conveniently may be, in order to prepare every Thing for the Arrival of the Forces above-mentioned from Europe, & for the Raising of the others in America.

You will receive from that General and the other Officers just mentioned, a full & exact account of the Arms, Cloathing & other necessaries to be sent upon this important Occasion, as likewise of the Ordnance Stores, & of the Officers and attendants belonging thereto All which being ordered for this Service, are such Proofs of His Majesty's Regard for the Security & Welfare of His Subjects in those Parts, as cannot fail to excite you to exert yourself, and those under your Care, to take the most vigorous Steps to repell your common Danger; & to shew that the King's Orders, which were sent you last year by the Earl of Holdernesse, & were renewed to you in my Letter of the 5^th July, have at last rouzed that Emulation and Spirit, which every man owes, at this Time, to His Majesty, the Publick & himself: The King will not therefore imagine, that either you, or the rest of His Governors,

will suffer the least Neglect or Delay in the Performance of the present Service, now strongly recommended to you, particularly with regard to the following Points, Viz^{t} That you should carefully provide a sufficient Quantity of fresh Victuals, at the Expence of your Government to be ready for the use of the Troops at their Arrival.

That you should likewise furnish the Officers, who may have Occasion to go from Place to Place, with all necessaries for travelling by Land, in Case there are no Means of going by Sea, and that you should use your utmost Diligence & Authority, in procuring an exact observance of such Orders, as shall be issued, from Time to Time, by the Commander in Chief, for quartering the Troops, impressing Carriages, & providing all Necessaries for such Forces, as shall arrive, or be raised, within your Government.

As the Articles abovementioned are of a local and peculiar nature, & arising entirely within your Government, it is almost needless for me to acquaint you, that His Majesty will expect, that the Charge thereof be defrayed by His Subjects belonging to the Same. But with regard to such other Articles, which are of more general Concern, it is the King's Pleasure that the same should be supplied by common Fund, to be established for the Benefit of all the Colonies, Collectively, in North America; For which Purpose, you will use your utmost Endeavours to induce the Assembly of your Province to raise, forthwith, as large a Sum as can be afforded, as Their Contribution to this common Fund, to be employed provisionally, for the general Service of North America, (particularly for paying the Charge of levying the Troops to make up the Complements of the Regiments abovementioned) untill such Time as a Plan of a general union of His Majesty's Northern Colonies, for their common Defence, can be perfected.

You will carefully confer or correspond, as you shall have Opportunities upon every Thing, relative to the present Service, with the said General, Sir Will^{m} Pepperell, & Gov^{r} Shirley, or either of them; And as it is the King's Intention to give all proper Encouragement to such Persons, who shall engage to serve upon this Occasion, you will acquaint all such Persons, in the King's Name, that they will receive Arms & Cloathing from hence, & that they shall be sent back, (if desired) to their respective Habitations when the Service in America is over.

As the several Governors in all the King's Provinces & Colonies in North America, will receive by this Conveyance, a Letter to the same Effect with this, which I now send you, they will be prepared at the same Time, to obey His Majesty's Commands: And I am to direct you, to correspond with all,

or either of Them, occasionally, as you shall find it Expedient for the General Service.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
T Robinson.

Gov^r of Maryland

[Sharpe to W. and J. Sharpe.] Letter Bk. II. p. 7

Annapolis Novem 3^d 1754.

To M^r W^m & I Sharpe

With His Majestys & Ld Baltimores Commission I received yesterday fortnight your kind & affectionate Lett^er dated the 6^th of July last apprizing me of the honour that His Majesty had been pleased to confer on me upon your Account & the favourable mention made of me by the Gent^n to whom I have in pursuance of your Advice addressed the inclosed Letters. I have taken a more early Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of S^r Tho^s Robinson's Letter with His Majesty's Commission but as there is a possibility of my Letter to him being miscarried, I thought it not improper to desire you to present him also the inclosed. I did but yesterday return from Virginia where I had been since the 19^th Inst advising & consulting with Governor Dinwiddie & M^r Dobbs on the most expedient measures for protecting these his Majesty's Dominions from the Encroachments of his Enemies & in making some Preparations for an Enterprise this winter against the Enemy's Fort on Monongahela if we find it practicable & can draw a sufficient Body of Troops together for that Service. The Forces already on Foot amount to near 600 Men & I hope will be soon 1000 tho I have learnt not to entertain very sanguine hopes of the Resolutions of American Assemblies, from which Opinion of mine I think you will see little Room for dissenting when you consider with what Indifference they have hitherto behaved & looked on the Incursions of their ambitious & insulting Enemies. As often as they have been convened p. 8 urged & intreated to aid each other in defending his Majestys Territories & their own Properties so often almost have they as it were unanimously refused to provide against the Dangers that threaten them or endeavoured to cast an Odium on their respective Gover^rs by laying them under a necessity of rejecting such Bills as were presented them with the specious Titles of Acts for His Majesty's Service & the better Defence & Security of the British Colonies. The Province of Massachusetts Bay

Letter Bk. II. indeed have shewn a Disposition to exert themselves by repelling some Depredations & Invasions that they were threatened with, & really I have such an Opinion of their Power & Spirit as to think they will sufficiently secure their own Frontiers, but can we with any face expect them to succour us whom they esteem little inferiour to themselves while they see us in a State of almost total Inactivity or Supineness. It will be vain I imagine for us to sollicite New Hampshire a weak & young Colony for Assistance; & from the Character of Rhode Island Government I see no great Prospect of being assisted from that Quarter: however to these will I address myself as well as to the Governor of Connecticutt whatever hopes I entertain of succeeding in my Applications. The Govern[t] of New York has sent M[r] Dinwiddie about £3000 Sterg. which is as much as we must expect from that Province itself exposed & open more than any of us to the Incursions & Devastations of the French & their Indian Allies who may at any time in a Day or two march into the heart of that Country.

The Jerseys have for their part been so far from concurring
p. 9 with or approving of M[r] Belchiers inviting them 3 or 4 several times to shew themselves not unmindful of their Country & unworthy of the British Name that they seem to have had nothing else in view at their meetings but to shew the greatest Disregard of & Contempt for the old Gentleman's Recommendations. A Quaker Sect for the most part composes the Pensilvania Assembly who in 3 successive meetings have absolutely refused tho their All was at Stake to advance a Shilling unless their Governor would make such Concessions to them as his Instructions particularly forbad him to think of. The Assembly of South Carolina have as yet I think shewn no less Backwardness to engage in the Cause, & the sinking entirely by gross mismanagement a Sum of £12.000 Proclamation money which North Carolina granted last Spring for the Service, before the Companies raised therewith could possibly advance to the Scene of Action I am afraid will not incline them very readily to repeat their Vote, & tho the Virginians have been prevailed on to give £20000 for their own Defence beside the £10000 which has been long since expended, & our Assembly may possibly be induced to make an Addition to what they lately advanced yet I cannot hope with such parcimonious Supplies as these to be able to execute the Commission I am honoured with with any great Eclat; I wish I may be able to do it with some small Reputation. It is expected I apprehend from your Letter that the Germans who have imported themselves into these Provinces will be found as ready as they are capable of bearing Arms on this Occasion, but I can assure you that whatever Character they may deserve

for Courage or military Skill I despair of seeing any of them so Letter Bk. II.
forward as to offer themselves Voluntiers under my Command p. 10
unless the Enemy was to approach so far as actually to deprive
them of their Habitations & Possessions of which alone they
are found tenacious. As to the Six Indian Nations I cannot
persuade myself to have much Confidence in their Fidelity or
rely on them for Aid; they are & have been long wavering
between the two Crowns & tho they should be inclined as
some imagine to support our Interest yet the fear of our
Enemys Strength & Vigilancy deters them from declaring
openly in our Favour: A large Party or Tribe of these People
who inhabit near S^{t} Lawrences River are avowedly in the
French Interest & will not hesitate to perpetrate whatever the
French require. In the Engagement that happened last July
between the Virginians & the Garrison of Monongahela or
Dequisne Fort a Considerable Body of these Six Nations who
dwell near the Banks of Ohio & Lake Erie appeared with our
Enemy in Arms against us tho many of their Chiefs & People
were at that time receiving our Presents at Albany & making
with the Commissioners from these several Colonies a League
of Peace & Amity. this & some other of their Transactions
incline me to think that they will never join & assist us heartily
against our Enemies till they perceive that we are an over
match for them ourselves; I beleive they have no real regard
excepting perhaps a very few of them either the French or us
but are awed by & stand in fear of our Power & numbers & I
doubt not daily curse their Ancestors for suffering either of us p. 11
to so peaceably to possess ourselves of Lands that they call
their ancient Possessions. these that I have above enumerated
together with the want of one Engineer at least & a proper Train
of Artillery are some of the Difficulties that occur to me when
I consider what might be expected from the Commission that
I now bear, & they are such as will not I hope be deemed
trivial ones whatever be the Event of my Endeavours to sur-
mount them. I have however the pleasure to acquaint you
that Governor Dinwiddie has given me the greatest Assur-
ances of his Friendship & firm Resolution to support me as
much as is in his power & as I think no time is to be lost while
the Enemy are making such large Strides to Conquest & have
already made prodigious progress in executing their Grand
Scheme, I will not be a moment Idle but endeavour to mani-
fest, as much as I may be enabled to do, my Duty to His
Majesty, to approve myself not entirely unworthy of the Com-
mission He has honoured me with & to merit the Continuance
of your Regard & Affection

Letter Bk. I. p. 95

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Annapolis 5th of Novr 1754.

My Ld

About a fortnight since I took an Opportunity by a Ship sailing from Virginia to acknowledge the Receipt of yr Ldp's Commission & express my gratitude for the vast Obligation that your Ldp has been pleased to lay me under by your ready favour & Kindness in permitting my Absence from your Ldps
p. 96 Province & the Administration of your Ldp's Government to execute the Commission which His Majesty has been pleased to honour me with. In obedience to your Ldp's Instruction I immediately on my Return from Virginia assembled your Ldps Council & acquainted them with your Ldp's Goodness & indulgence to me & the Honour that His Majesty had been pleased to confer on me. With their Advice I have taken the Liberty to issue Writs for a general Election of Representatives about 3 weeks before the Expiration of the usual Term that a Session has been lately continued. this I was induced the more readily to do from the Consideration that if the old Assembly had been convened there would have been little probability of their doing any thing generous while they would have been expecting in a few Days a Dissolution. But before I can meet the Candidates who are now electing I hope some of the neighbouring Colonies will set them a laudable Example & then I despair not of finding them inclined to shew a generous Disposition & by paying a due regard to your Ldps Recommendation manifest their Duty to His Majesty & their Constituents. In Obedience to your Ldps pleasure I shall leave the Administration of the Government & the Care of your Ldps private Affairs to Mr Tasker in case I should for a short time be absent from your Ldps Province. I propose to be at Wills Creek about the End of next week & if there appears a Probability of effecting any thing with such a Body of Troops as can be drawn together before the severe season sets in I may make a winters Campaign, but if when I consult the Officers, it shall be thought expedient to post-pone an Enterprize against the Enemy till the neighbouring Governments can be persuaded to send us some Reinforcements I will return hither again as
p. 97 soon as I have taken measures & disposed the Troops in such a manner as to prevent the Incursions on our Frontiers this winter of the French & their Indians of whom Governor Morris has just advised me that 60 had been seen on their way & 200 more were expected to go to the Ohio Fort from thence in parties to depopulate & lay wast at all Opportunities the Back Parts of this & the two neighbouring Governments. But that this Scheme of theirs at least has been frustrated I hope to be

able to acquaint your Ldp when I shall have another Opportunity of assuring your Ldp that I am your Ldp's most obliged & devoted. Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Original. Calvert Papers.

Annapolis Novem^{r} 5th 1754. transmitted by Cap^{t} Clarkson.

Sir

The 25th of last month I took the Opportunity of a Ship's sailing from Virginia to acknowledge the Receipt of His Lordships Commission and your kind Favour of Iuly. This Day Sennight I left Williamsburg & arrived here Sunday last. Yesterday I met the Gentlemen of the Council (having while I was in Virginia writ to desire their Presence at that time) & acquainted them with His Lordships Kindness to me in dispensing with my attendance for a time on the Administration of His Government in case his Majestys Service should require at any time my presence out of His Lordships Province. With their advice I have taken the Liberty to issue writs for a new Election of Representatives, as the Term that they have usually continued was expiring, & imagining that they would not so readily be induced to make the Provision that His Lordship has been pleased to recommend to them w^{n} they were every Day expecting a Dissolution. Before the new Assembly can possibly be convened I hope some of the neighbouring Colonies will set them a laudable Example, and then I despair not of finding them disposed to exert themselves at last by a generous Resolution, & by paying the greatest Regard to His Lordships earnest Recommendation manifest their Duty to His Majesty & their Constituents. The making some necessary preparations for my Journey will detain me this week at Annapolis but the beginning of next I propose to set out for Wils Creek & if there appears a probability of effecting any thing with such a Body of Troops as can be drawn together before the severe Season comes on, I hope by the next opportunity of Conveyance that will probably offer to give you a Satisfactory account of my Winters Campaign. But if a Council of War which I intend to hold as soon as I reach Wils's Creek shall find it most expedient to postpone any Attack till the Neighbouring Governments can be persuaded to send us proper Reinforcements I shall return again as soon as I have regulated & disposed of the Companies for the Security of our Frontiers this winter against the Incursions of the French Indians who were seen Governor Morris advises me on their March towards the French Fort on Ohio to be employed this winter as was apprehended against our Back Inhabitants. As I have reason to think that the several Letters

which I writ some time since are ee'r this got home safely I have no particular private Business to write on; wherefore I beg leave to conclude with assuring you that I am w^th^ the greatest Respect & Regard, Sir,

your most obliged and Obed^t^ Humble Serv^t^

Annapolis, 5^th^ Nov. 1754 Hor^o^ Sharpe

Letter Bk. II. p. 12

[Sharpe to Lord Bury.]

Nov^r^ 5^th^ 1754

My Ld

Your Favour of January I had lately the pleasure to receive by M^r^ Christie & in Answer thereto must desire your Ldp to be assured that that & every Letter of the same Sort shall command any Services from me to any Gentleman here who might be fortunate enough to get themselves recommended to your Ldps notice. Your Ldp will I hope excuse me for adding to these few Lines (which I cannot but think too concise a Letter to your Ldp) a brief narration of some Occurrances that have happened here since my Arrival on the Continent & are looked upon at home I find as well as with us as matters of no trivial Importance. About this time twelve months the several Governors on this Continent received Letters from England whereby they were advised of the march of a considerable Body of Europeans & Indians towards the English Settlements in Pensilvania & Virginia & were also forbid to connive at or suffer any such apprehended Intrusion or Incursion of Foreigners into His Majesty's Territories & Dominions but ordered to repel them by every means in their Power. these Letters were I apprehend transmitted hither in Consequence of some Representations that had been made home in the preceeding Spring, however on the Receipt of them Governor Denwiddie sent a messenger with a Letter to the Com-
p. 13 mander of a Party of French (who had lately marched down from Canada & were building a Fort on the River Ohio westward of the Province of Pensilvania & about 150 Miles from the inhabited part of Virginia) requiring him to retire & relinquish His Majesty the King of Great Britains Lands on which they were then presuming to erect a Fort. instead of complying with Governor Denwiddies Requisition the French Commandant replied that it was more the part of His Commander the Governor of Canada than his to dispute with the Governor of Virginia about the Property of the Land He was then possessed of that for His part he was only concerned with his Commanding Officers orders which he was determined punctually to obey & repel by force whatever power should attempt to dislodge or interrupt him in the Execution of his Duty. On

the Messengers Return with this answer Governor Denwiddie Letter Bk. II.
thought proper to order a party of 30 Men to advance to the
Ohio some miles below the French Fort & prepare Materials
for erecting a Fortress also upon that River hoping the general
Assembly of Virginia (whom he immediately convened) & the
neighbouring Colonies would enable him not only to compleat
& garrison that Fort but also to recover all the Lands that the
French had taken possession of on that fine River. With the
Supplies granted by the Assembly He proceeded to raise 300
Men in that Province having been also informed from home
that 2 from New York & one of the Independant Companies
from South Carolina were ordered round to Virginia to attend
His Orders & Directions. The Company from Carolina
arrived in Virginia the Latter End of April & those from New p. 14
York within 3 or 4 weeks after, but whatever hopes He had
entertained of receiving Assistance from the other Colonies
proved entirely vain & illusive it being not possible as yet to
persuade any of them that they were at all interested in the
Affair or could be in the least affected by the Event & Issue of
the Dispute. With the Force however above numbred &
about 300 Men that were to be sent out from N Carolina to
join them Gov^{r} Denwiddie hoped to be able at least to act
defensively & to proceed to erect a Fort or two on Ohio till
He should receive farther Instructions from home for his
Conduct. while He was about to order this Scheme into Execu-
tion Intelligence was brought him that a Body of about 200
French Regulars had on the 17th of April come down on the
small Party who had been ordered out to prepare Materials
for a Fort & had obliged them to relinquish what materials
they had collected for that purpose & to return again to Vir-
ginia. This Information was too soon confirmed to us & the
Enemy immediately begun & have now compleated a Fort
considerably strong & large near the Spot on which our People
had begun to build & have mounted therein several swivels &
some Carriage Guns. At the time that Ensign Ward & His
Detachment made the Surrendry above mentioned the Rest of
the Virginia Corps & the South Carolina Company under the
Command of one M^{r} Washington were advancing to support
them & fortify themselves on the River but on being acquainted
with the cause of this their unexpected Return as soon as the p. 15
Party met him He declined proceeding till He should be rein-
forced by the other Troops who were now in motion toward
him & in the mean time employed himself in opening a Road
from the Frontiers of this Province toward the Enemy's Fort.
while He was in this situation about Midway between the
English Settlements & the Enemy a Party of His Men fell in
with Monsieur Jumonville a Lieutenant & about 30 Men

Letter Bk. II. from the Fort (who were sent as twas supposed to intercept a Convoy of Provisions designed for our men) & having killed Jumonville & 7 or 8 of his Detachment they took the rest Prisoners & sent them under a Guard to the Governor of Virginia where they yet remain. No sooner did the news of this Skirmish reach the Ohio but the Enemy drew together from the several Fortresses which they have built up & down that River near 1000 Men in order to fall on our Troops & return the Compliment. M^{r} Washington being apprized of this a few Days before the Enemy approached him with the Advice of the other Officers retired a few Miles to a place called the Meadows, it being Low Land between two Eminences or small Hills where He encamped & as well as the time would permit endeavoured to secure himself by drawing around him a small Ditch & building within it a Sort of Log House. here on the 3^{d} of July about noon the French attacked him & having killed him about 30 Men obliged him toward the Evening to capitu-
p. 16 late & accept terms which indeed were very far from being pretty honourable. that He did not stand longer on the Defensive He attributes to the great improbability there was of holding out against such a Superiority of Numbers when he had not any Expectations of seeing the other Troops come to his Assistance & being also in want of both Ammunition & Provisions, but that He was prevailed on to sign a dishonorable Capitulation is owing he declares & concurrent Circumstances support his Assertion not to these Difficulties but to the Infidelity of one of his Captains now a Hostage with the Enemy on whom he depended to interpret to him the Terms & Conditions proposed to him by the Enemy which were written in French a Language that M^{r} Washington had the misfortune to be entirely unacquainted with thus at once were frustrated all the hopes that had been conceived from the Virginia Armament & tho the news of this Defeat has somewhat allarmed the people in this part of the Continent yet they could not be persuaded to advance any thing considerable for carrying on another Expedition against these Invaders who I am afraid will gradually make themselves Masters of our Possessions as they have already of all the Indian Trade unless some measures be taken at home to oblige us to defend them ourselves or Remittances be made hither to encourage the Service. At present the Independant Companies a Company of 100 men which this Province has raised & the Remains of the Virginians
p. 17 whom Death & Desertions have reduced to about 200 are encamped on the Frontiers of the setled part of Virginia & this Province at a Place called Wills Creek where I beleive they are to proceed to build a Fort or sort of Magazine & there remain till some Instructions from home shall open to them a prospect of entering upon Action with greater probability of

Success, this I flatter myself with the hopes of seeing soon as I Letter Bk. II.
make no Doubt but a proper Representation of the present Posture of Affairs on this Continent has been made home & that our Situation & Condition will be taken into Consideration. this our past & present Parsimony & Supineness absolutely requires which has prevented our being at this time in possession of a fine Country that the French are making themselves Masters of & whence they will not be dislodged but at a great Expence. thus far I had writ some weeks since designing to address it to your Ldp by the first opportunity of Conveyance that should offer but none having till now occurred I have had it transcribed & thereto added a few Lines to inform your Ldp that I have received a Commission which his Majesty has been pleased to honour me with whereby I am ordered to take the Command of all the Forces that shall be employed in this part of the Continent against His Majestys & this Country's Enemies, in pursuance of this I am making some necessary preparations for taking the Field or rather the woods this winter in hopes of being able if the neighbouring Governments will make a proper addition to the Troops above numbered to carry the Fort which the Enemy as I have before p. 18
noticed have built on the Ohio at the Forks of Monongahela or one that they have built farther up the River nearer Lake Erie. The Possession of either of these would enable us to cut off if we are properly supported the Communication that they are sollicitous to establish by a Chain of Forts from Montreal to New Orleans near the mouth of the River Missisippi, & would also prevent the total Loss of a Trade that these Colonies have hitherto enjoyed with the Indian Natives of which we are already almost utterly deprived. A small Number of Men from home would I persuade myself have rendered me equal to this Task but as I cannot expect to see Troops transported hither to be under my Direction I will endeavour to do the best I can with those I have the honour to command & will hope that I may be able to give you such an Account of my Conduct as I flatter myself your good wishes for me makes you desirous of seeing. in the mean time I would beg the favour of you to signify to me whether it would become me at any time to take the Liberty to submit my Transactions & Behaviour in the Execution of my Commission to His Royal Highness or satisfy myself with laying them only before the Ministry & yourself whom I will beg leave to trouble as often as I have any thing of importance to write on. Your Ldp will have the goodness to excuse my sending this in a different Character from what I designed & attribute it to my being entirely engrossed by some Business that demands to be dispatched before I can leave this place & Yr Ldp will I hope beleive me to be with the greatest respect & regard Yr Ldps &c.

Letter Bk. II. p. 19

[Sharpe to Sir Thomas Robinson.]

Nov^{r} 5 [1754] Annapolis

Right Honourable

I took the Liberty the 25th of last Month from Virginia to make my most grateful Acknowledgments for the Receipt of his Majestys most gracious Commission together with a Letter which yourself had been pleased to honour me with by Governor Dobbs who had but a few Days before arrived. lest any Accident should occasion the Loss of the Letter that I then begged leave to address to you I seize this Opportunity of repeating the Contents of it & of intreating you if you think proper to assure his Majesty that I am extremely sensible of the honour that he has been pleased to confer on me that it shall be the Business of my Life to manifest my Duty to his Majesty & my constant Study & endeavours to pay the most exact & punctual Obedience to his Royal Pleasure which you have now been pleased to acquaint me with & to whatever future Commands & Instructions I may have the honour & Satisfaction to receive. On Governor Denwiddie's intimating to me his Receival of His Majestys Orders to himself & me I immediately set out for that place to take his Advice how I may best execute the Commission I found myself honoured with & to consult with him what measures it would be most expedient to take for the Defence of his Majesty's Dominions on the Continent at this time & with the small Force that we shall be able to collect this winter or early in the ensuing Spring. In pursuance of his & Governor Dobbs's Advice & Approbation I propose to raise Seven Hundred Men with all possible Expedition who will I hope (if a very severe Season does not
p. 20 soon set in) be able in Conjunction with the three Independant Companies to carry the Fort that the French have built upon the River Monongahela before a Reinforcement can be sent the Garrison from Canada or the French Settlements in that part of the Continent which they call Louisiana. This & erecting a Fortress (which we conceive absolutely necessary for its Defence on an Island in the River Ohio opposite to the said French Fort is as much as I can hope to execute with so small a number of Men as will I apprehend compleat the Corps that will be under my Direction, most of whom will be required in Case our Enterprize should succeed to garrison the two Forts abovementioned & one that is begun at a Place called Wills-Creek on Potomack River by way of a general Magazine for the Troops that may be employed in the Service. I have just received Advice from Governor Morris that about 60 French Indians were seen very lately on their way toward the Fort on Ohio & that 200 more were about to follow them to be

employed against our back Settlements this Winter if we do Letter Bk. II.
not deprive them of that Asylum where they propose to resort
& ravage the Country at Intervals with impunity.—As soon as
I can make some necessary Preparations for my Journey which
shall not retard me more than a week I intend to set out for
Wills-Creek, in the Interim I will write to all the neighbouring
Colonies & sollicite their Assistance & if they should fortunately
be disposed to encrease considerably our American Forces in
the Spring I will with the greatest Alacrity & Diligence prose-
cute His Majesty's Service & endeavour to gain that Fort also p. 21
which the Enemy have built on Buffaloe River. But notwith-
standing I should be succesful even in that Attempt, yet I
cannot think that His Majestys Dominions on the Continent
will be thereby effectually secured, or a free & open Trade
with the Indian Natives ensured to us while the French are
masters of so many Forts on the Lakes & have fortified so
many Places in the inland Country behind us; but as nothing
less than a considerable Body of European Troops can be
expected to oblige them to relinquish these I shall confine my
views & attend only the Business which I have at present in
hand hoping that by the time I shall have another Opportunity
of addressing myself home I shall be able to send a satisfactory
Account of my Proceedings & Conduct. In my other Letter I
took the Liberty to mention the Disputes that have arisen &
still subsist between the Independant Companies & the Troops
which the Colonies have raised on this Occasion, & I presumed
to hope that what Gov^{r} Dinwiddie had written relating thereto
might be thought to deserve some notice & that you would be
pleased by your Instructions to remove that Evil for the future,
in the mean time it shall be my constant Care & Study to
prevent any animosities among them & at all times to shew
that I have a due Sense of the favours you have been pleased
to confer on

Honble Sir
Your most devoted &c

[Sharpe to the Earl of Halifax.] p. 22

Nov. 5th [1754]

My Lord

I do myself the honour to acknowledge to your Ldp my
Receipt of His Majestys most gracious Commission appointing
me Commander in Chief of the Forces that may be employed
against His Majestys Enemies in this Part of His Dominions.
As Governor Denwiddie has writ to acquaint your Ldp with
the present Posture of Affairs in this part of the Continent I

Letter Bk. II. would not presume to trouble your Ldp at this time with any thing on that head from myself but shall only take the Liberty of assuring your Ldp that it shall be my constant Study to deserve your Ldps Favour by endeavouring to shew that I am your Ldps most obedient & devoted Servant.

[Sharpe to Lord Anson.]

Nov 5th [1754]

My Ld

As a Friend of mine has intimated to me that I am entirely indebted to your Ldp for the honour that His Majesty has been pleased to confer on me in appointing me Commander of the Forces that may be employed against his Majesty's Enemies in this part of his Dominions I beg leave to make my most grateful Acknowledgments for your Lordships kindness & the Services that your Ldp has been pleased to do me, & to assure
p. 23 your Ldp that it shall be my constant Study by my Conduct to express my gratitude to your Ldp & to merit the Continuance of the favourable Opinion that your Ldp has been pleased to entertain of your Ldps most obliged & devoted Servant.

[Sharpe to Hanbury.]

[Nov. 1754.]

Sir

My unwillingness to detain the Captain a moment longer than while I was writing the small Pacquet which I took the Liberty to recommend to your Care the other Day from Virginia added to the Business which at that time engrossed my Attention will I hope make my Excuse to you for delaying till now to acknowledge & thank you for the kind Services which I am sensible you have taken an Opportunity lately of doing me you are I flatter myself inclined to think that it will be my Study to approve myself not entirely unworthy of the honour that His Majesty has been pleased to confer on me; as it will I assure you at all times to deserve a Share of Your Esteem & Regard.—

A Letter was also writ to the same purport to Mr Adair & another to Capt. Tomlinson—

p. 24 [Sharpe to Governor Morris.]

Novr 8th 1754.

Sir

I have received the favour of your Letter acquainting me with your safe Arrival in your Government upon wch I very heartily congratulate you & most sincerely wish you much

Ease & Satisfaction in your Administration. Your early Letter Bk. II.
Declaration that you will always make it your Business to promote His Majestys Service & the Interest of these Colonies & that you will freely communicate to me the measures that you shall esteem likely to contribute to that End is highly agreeable to me as it gives me an opportunity of assuring you that I will make it my Study to deserve your Confidence & that your Advice in any thing that might concern the publick Service will with me always have the greatest weight & Influence. You are I presume no Stranger to his Majesty's having been pleased to honour me with a Commission to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for the Defence of these Colonies against the Encroachments & Invasions of His Majesty's Enemies, & from your generous Professions I flatter myself with hopes that nothing will be wanting on your part to enable me to execute His Majesty's Commission with some Reputation & to repel the Dangers that at this time threaten us. It would be I am persuaded impertinent in me to insist on or even hint at the fatal Consequences that would attend our conniving at the Encroachments that the French have lately p. 25
made on His Majesty's Dominions in this part of the Continent or suffering them to remain Masters of the Forts which they have built on the Frontiers of that Province, of this you are extremely sensible & I will not doubt but your Assembly when they meet again will shew a just regard to your Recommendation of the Service to their Consideration & will manifest their Patriotism by granting such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs & the Danger that threatens their Country does at this time demand. indeed without large Assistance from them & the neighbouring Colonies I despair of answering in the least His Majesty's Expectations & royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission & I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of excusing my Failure or Inaction & attribute them to the want of such succours as His Majesty by his Secretary gives me room to expect from his good & loyal American Subjects. Should my hopes of your Assembly's Disposition prove well founded you will be kind enough to advise me by Express thereof & acquaint me in what manner you judge they will be most inclined to afford us their Assistance that I might regulate my Conduct or lay my Plan of Operations accordingly.

2[d] I returned last Sunday from Williamsburg where I left the Virginia Assembly sitting. they had granted the Sum of £20000 for the Service & were proceeding to prepare a Bill for levying a number of Forces at once in that province by obliging each Cty to furnish a certain quota.

3[d] I should be much obliged to you for endeavouring to get p. 26
me Intelligence of the number of the Enemy at Venango &

Letter Bk. II. their Fort on Buffaloe River of the Situation & strength of which I have in vain endeavoured to get a particular Description. I should be also glad to learn whether there is any Road yet opened from the Back-Settlements in Pensilvania to either of these Places & whether it would be impracticable to convey Provisions thither from your Province either in Summer or in the winter Season. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Governor Belcher.]

Nov. 8th [1754]

Sr

I take the Liberty to acquaint you that His Majesty hoping His good & loyal American Subjects will exert themselves unanimously to repel the Encroachments that the French are & have been making on his Dominions in this part of the Continent has been pleased to honour me with a Commission to command all the Forces that the several Colonies may raise for that purpose, & to intreat you to endeavour to procure us such Supplies either of Men or money from the Assembly of your Province as the Exigency of Affairs do at this time demand. It would be I am persuaded impertinent in me to insist on or even hint at the fatal Consequences that must attend our conniving at the Encroachments that the French have lately made on His Majestys Territories, or suffering them to remain Masters of the Forts which they have built on the Frontiers of these Provinces. of this you are extremely
p. 27 sensible & I will not doubt but your Assembly when they meet again will shew a just Regard to your Recommendation of the Service to their Consideration. indeed without large Assistance from them & the neighbouring Colonies I despair of answering in the least His Majesty's Expectations & Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission & shall be under the disagreeable necessity of excusing my failure or Inaction to the want of such Succours as his Majesty by one of his principal Secretaries of State gives me room to expect from His good Subjects in that as well as these Provinces. Should the Gentlemen of your Assembly when they take the Affair under their Consideration shew a Disposition to support their fellow Subjects & provide for the Safety of His Majesty's Dominions in this part of the Continent & their own Country, you will be kind enough to send me immediate Advice thereof & acquaint me in what manner you judge they will be most inclined to afford us their Assistance whether by money or Troops that I might regulate my Conduct accordingly. You will be pleased to signify to me as soon as possible what is to be expected because the vast progress that the Enemy made last Summer

makes it absolutely necessary that we act offensively very early in the Spring. I am just returned from Williamsburg where the Virginia Assembly were sitting, they had granted the Sum of £20000 for the Encouragement of the Service & I hope the Assembly of this Province will make an Addition to what they lately advanced as soon as I can meet them after a new Election, I am &c— Letter Bk. II.

[Sharpe to Governor De Lancey.] p. 28

Nov. 8th [1754]

Sr

I take the Liberty to acquaint you that His Majesty expecting his good & loyal American Subjects will unanimously exert themselves to repel the Encroachments that the French are making on these his Dominions has been pleased to order me to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for that purpose. As I despair of answering in the least His Majesty's Expectations & Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission unless the several Governments will incline to send us such Succours as His Majesty by one of His principal Secretaries of State bids me expect I have addressed myself to them severally solliciting their aid & am not without hopes that the Gentlemen of your Assembly will be disposed to make an Addition to the sum they were pleased to grant some time since for this Service. I am not insensible how much the Frontiers of that Province are exposed to the Incursions & Depredations of the French & their Allied Indians & imagine that a considerable Expence will be incurred by making your Frontiers more secure & your Forts more defensible which I perceive you have already recommended to your Assembly, yet as the Enemy seem to be at present most intent on fixing & establishing themselves on the Back of these Provinces to secure to themselves a free Communication from Canada to New Orleans & at the same time effectually cut us off from all Intercourse & Trade with the Indian Nations I cannot but think our united Force should be directed to disconcert that grand Scheme, their Execution & Completion of which must be attended with respect to us with the most fatal Consequences. however as the Gentlemen of your Assembly may think that their own Country has demands enough on them I will not press you so earnestly to sollicite them on our Behalf as I have the other Governments, but will rest assured that what they can they will chearfully contribute to encourage the Expedition that I am entrusted with the Direction of, & if at any time while I am honoured with this Command I can thereby promote the Security of his Majestys Subjects in that part of his Dominions

Letter Bk. II. you will be pleased to think that I will do it with the greatest readiness & Satisfaction. I wish you would be kind enough to send us a few Grenadoes from one of your Magazines by any Vessel bound either to this Province Virginia or Pensilvania & if you should receive any Intelligence from Oswego or any other Quarter of the Enemy's motions toward this part of the Continent I flatter myself you will not delay to advise me thereof which will much oblige Your Honour's &c

Letters were also writ to the Governors of Rhode Island & Connecticut Governts to the same purport as that to Govr Belcher.

p. 30 To Governor Shirley Nov 8th [1754]

Sir

I take the Liberty to acquaint you that His Majesty expecting his good & loyal American Subjects will unanimously exert themselves to repel the Encroachments that the French are making on these his Dominions has been pleased to order me to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for that purpose, but as I despair of answering in the least His Majesty's Expectations & Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission unless the several Governments on the Continent will incline to send us such succours as His Majesty by one of his Principal Secretaries of State gives me reason to hope for; I have addressed myself to them severally solliciting their aid & I entertain sanguine hopes that the Gentlemen of your Assembly will not be backward to favour my Application I am not insensible that the Incursions of the Enemy on your own Frontiers have occasioned a considerable Expence to the Province yet as the French seem particularly sollicitous & intent at this time on executing their long projected Scheme of establishing a Communication from Cape Breton thro the Continent to the Gulf of Mexico, in which they have this last Summer made prodigious Progress by the Settlements they have made & the Forts they have built & strongly garrisoned on the Back of these Provinces I cannot but think our united Force should be directed to disconcert their Scheme, the
p. 31 Execution of which threatens us with the most fatal Consequences. of the Expediency of this which we are of ourselves insufficient to perform & the unhappy Condition of these Colonies at present I am persuaded you are extremely sensible. I will therefore hope that you will recommend this Affair to your Assembly in such a manner as to incline them to send us such Supplies of New England Troops or Money as our present Situation does really call for & require

I am &c

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Nov^{r} 12th 1754

Sir

I send by this Sloop to the Care of Maj^{r} Carlyle all the Things I cou'd purchase here that you thought necessary for the Expedition & enclos'd you have a particular Acc^{t} of them. I have a pretty many recruiting officers in many of our Counties, their Success I cannot as yet acquaint you; but shall be glad to know y^{r} Determination as to your March. I much dread we shall not be able immediately to raise the Number of Forces I think necessary for you to march with; but hope during the Winter Months to enlist many, every Thing in my Power shall be done.

Pray write me the Numbers at Wills's Creek. I refer Col^{o} Innes to you if he inclines to continue on the Expedition, he is an indefatigable honest Man.

I am with great Respect
S^{r}
Your most hble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

[Gov. Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

Your Favour of the eighth Instant I had the Honour to receive by your Messenger, and congratulate you upon the Command his Majesty has been pleased to give you, in the execution of which I wish you all imaginable Success, and shall think myself happy if I can in any thing contribute to it.

Early in this Month I received a Letter from the Secretary of State, signifying to me his Majesties Commands that I should act vigorously in Defence of the Government under my Care, and be aiding and assisting to the other Colonies to repel any hostile Attempts made against them, and I shall endeavour to act up to the Royal Commands as fully as the Assembly of this Province will enable me to do, and it will give me great Satisfaction if they resolve to act with Spirit at this important Juncture when the Interest and Safety of this particular Province is so nearly concerned.

The Assembly of this Province is appointed to meet on the second of December, and I believe will sit for some time, and should you receive any Intelligence or take any Steps that may influence their Resolutions in favour of vigorous Measures, I shall be obliged to you for sending such by Express which this Government will be at the Expence of,

Tho the People of this Province have for Thirty years past carried on a Trade to the River Ohio and were seated at the

very Place where the French have built their last Fort, yet I cannot learn that we have any thing more than a Horse Way thither through the Woods and over the Mountains, by which I am told it will be very difficult if not impracticable to transport any considerable Quantity of Provisions; but there is a very good Waggon Road from this City to Watkins's Ferry on Patowmack by which any Goods may be carried very commodiously to that Place.

I will make it my Business to enquire and inform you of the strength and situation of the French at Weningo and Buffaloe River, as far as the Indians at Aucquick or in that Neighbourhood, who are constantly passing to and from those Places on the Ohio, can furnish me with such Intelligence, tho I imagine you will have an opportunity of seeing and examining the Principal of them at Will's Creek, where I am informed by M^{r} Croghan he intended to accompany them to wait on you.

I shall upon all occasions do my utmost to promote his Majesties Service, and am with perfect Esteem and Regard

Sir

Your Most Obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris.

Philadelphia
14 Nov^{r} 1754.

Original.

[Belcher to Sharpe.]

Sir

The 17: Instant came to my Hands, your Excellency^{s} Favour of the 8: Curr^{t} & which I have read once & again with Attention.

And first of all, congratulate your Excellency, in the Honour, His Majesty has done you, of His Royal Commission, to command all the Forces, that may be rais'd in the several Colonies, to repell the Incroachments of the perfidious French, that they have made & are still making, upon His Majestys Dominions, in these Parts, of the British Continent; & to prevent, their further Depredations, Barbarities, & Murders, of His Majesty's good Subjects.

And after saying this, I am to inform Your Excellency, that for near twelve Months past, I have been urging two several Assemblies of this Province in the most pungent Manner, to fall into their Duty, by giving their Aid, & Assistance, in Defence of His Majesty's Honour, & Interest, & for promoting the Peace & Safety of these Provinces; & some Months ago, I dissolv'd one Assembly for turning a deaf Ear, to all I cou'd say to them, on the Present Emergency of Affairs—& I immediately call'd another, which I met the last Month, & found them, in better Temper, in these Matters, than the last was;—

& yet, the most I cou'd bring them to, was to project a Bill, which they have sent Home, for His Majesty^{s} Approbation, & for His Leave, to His Governour, to enact it.—& in this Bill, have given His Majesty, as an Aid, in the present Emergency, the Sum of about Six thousand Pounds St^{r} & nothing further is, like to be done, by the Assembly of this Province, till they have an Answer to their Petition, to the King, on this Head, & which cannot be expected, till some Time, the next Spring—

As anything material may occur, in this Affair, I shall carefully, hand it to you. I am with much Respect,—

S^{r}
Your Excellency's
most obedient &
most humble Servant
J Belcher

Eliza: Town (N I)
Nov^{r} 20: 1754

Gov^{r} Sharpe—

[Baltimore to Sharpe.] Original.

London December 3^{d} 1754.

Sir

I desire you will settle an hundred pounds a year to be payd out of the Land office to m^{r} Iohn Wogan of the Middle Temple, he is a Gentleman for whom I have a very great regard; 'tis a great happiness to men of Power here in England that they can always oblige their personal acquaintances, whereas the great distance of Maryland from this part of the world confines the gift of places to very few persons.

M^{r} Calvert has answered in his letters to you the particulars of yours to me, you cannot doubt that I wish you happiness & success in all undertakings, particularly against the French & I flatter myself that you will always look upon me as your most

Sincere Freind &c.
F. Baltimore

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir/

As the Assembly of this Province met upon business this day, I have only time by the bearer to send you coppy of a letter I received two days ago from M^{r} George Croghan, the person entrusted with the Care of the Indians that have left Ohio and now live at a place calld Aukwick, and as the latter contains some very usefull intelligence I should have forwarded it by Express, if this conveyance by M^{r} Rutherfords servant

had not offerd itself; which affords me also an opportunity of telling you that I have in a long speech pressd our assembly to exert themselves upon the present occasion, and enable me to carry his majestys commands into full execution; and I am not quite without hopes that they will do something, but what that will be, I am as yet unable to say.

I think it of consequence to our affairs among the Indians, that this province should maintain such of them as are at Aukwick, and that the Chiefs now going from thence to Onendago should know that we have resolved to do so, I have therefore detaind the express till I knew the sentiments of the House of Assembly, without whom nothing can be done where money is wanting, and I beleive they will readily come into what I have recomended to 'em upon this head.

You will give me leave to mention to you Captain Rutherford who is a gentleman of good sence very well acquainted with the nature of the Indian Affairs, having been long conversant with them as one of the Council for New York, and few men know the Politicks of this part of the Continent better than he, I am sure you will find him a skillfull active officer and a very usefull man upon the present occasion.—

I have some hints from England that a Plan of union of the Colonys for military purposes (not that sent from hence) is under the Consideration of the ministry, and tis thought will be enforced by Act of Parliament this sessions, and if so, something to the purpose may be done next summer, but hardly if we are to depend upon supplys to be granted by American Assemblys.

I have the Honour to be Sir
Your Most obed^{t}
Humble serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris

Philad^{a} Decem^{r} 3^{d} 1754.

Calvert Papers.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Dec^{r} 10th 1754

Sir

The Laws pass'd by you the 2^{d} of Oct^{r} & y^{r} Let^{r} the 4th of May arriving at Long vacation time, the time the Lawyers are in the Country has been the occasion of My not answ^{g} you sooner. His Lord^{ps} Inst^{ns} Inclosed Contain his consideration of the Laws & of ordinary & of Hawkers & Pedlars Licences &c. You remark on advissing with his Lord^{ps} Agent & with the Iudge of the Land Office ab^{t} parcells of Land to be Surveyed & Erect'd into Manors you say, " you are inform'd there

is no Tract of Land unless in the Lower part of the Eastern Shore & the Barrens Extensive enough to answer that purpose, Except in Frederick County near the Frontiers" this depends on the return of the County Surveyors. As to Surplus Land, you mention found Contiguous to the Manors such Land will enlarge them, & of Land Scituated & mixed with other Patented Land Tracts, such irregular parcells of Land are of no Purchase but to those whose possessions they Join: such small Quantities of Land mixed with Property sold, the best discovery is by survey of the County, w^h^ will Plan to each party their Property, therefore My Lord desires the Execution of His Inst^n^ (i e) the Surveys of the Counties. Calvert Papers.

M^r^ Evan's Extract from the Records of New York of the History of Delaware Bay, you have transmitt'd, is but a Pick'd Detail, Fragm^ts^ of Transactions of no use. What you ordered the Receiver Gen^l^ to Advance him, will be right to be repaid to My Lords Acco^t^ from the income of the Naval Office of Pocomack, during the Vacancy. My Lord in no respect disaproves of your conduct in Regard to M^r^ Evans he is sensible you meant well & acted therein to obtain good Intelligence, & tho' Evans is deficient of Service it falls not on you, who could have no motive but of rendering Service.

The Circumstance you relate of Kittsmillers murder of M^r^ Diggs falling North of the Temporary Line within the Iuridiction of Pensilvania according to the Kings order of Council for runing that Division Line proves as I observed My Lord is Satisfyed with your Notice of his Inst^n^ Concern^g^ tis with the Pensilvanians to answ^r^ the Acquittance of Kitsmiller.

The Debt Books of the West Shore are rec^d^. M^r^ Lloyd has his Lord^ps^ Inst^ns^ Ab^t^ the return w^h^ he is to communicate to you. My Lord has Satisfaction in the Reduction from 20 to 15 p^r^ C^t^ Receipt by the Farmers of his Quit Rents, & depends on the Reduction to 10 p^r^ Cent on Experation of two years the present contract with the Farmers & Sheriffs, Your stated income of the Provincial Benefices is acceptable, but y^r^ Inclos'd Copy of Bond from the Clergy his Lord^p^ disaproves, as it may occasion Controversy with them & the Bishop of London. he has under Consideration a Plan for Regulating them by Authority of his Charter, with Advice of the Bishop. Approves of y^r^ proposition for the Clergy to Benefices more considerable by remove from merrit, on such occasions with his Approbation. He consents to M^r^ Tasker & M^r^ Dulany being joint in the Office of Com̄iss^y^ Gen^l^ 'tis M^r^ Taskers request & M^r^ Dulany's desire with y^r^ Advice to Me that the Office is Sufficient for two. When an Office can admit of more Officers than One the Admission is good Policy, giving dispatch to Affairs of Goverment.

Calvert Papers.

The completion of the Gov^{rs} House you mention wo^{d} give My Lord pleasure he is dispossed to a Voluntary Gift to it, But it is a Public Concern unfinish'd not secured from Bad Weather, Occassion'd by Party ag^{t} common Sence, he will not make good such Foible.

Col: Cresap's Map of the North Bend of Potomack River with respect to the North Temporary Line removes the doubt of the Bend touch^{g} the Line, there being south of the Line Considerable distance of Country between the Line & the Bend, Admitting extensive passage to the Spring head of that River. The observation in 1669 at Newcastle & also the Act of Virginia concern^{g} the North Boundery is of service as it Points the opinion of that Collony about the North Line of Maryland, Out of w^{h} the latter was taken. 'tis unlucky that Governor Dinwiddie informs you, that no Acco^{t} of Maryland is to be found on Record in Virginia, such are said to have been. The several Attested Copies Viz^{t} Old Surveys, Patents, warrants & Certificates of Land at present Disputed between the two Provinces wth the Comiss^{rs} Iournal of run of the North Temporary Line are arrived, but no Map or Plan of the Line, tis a concern to understand the Maryland Comiss^{rs} suffered themselves to be grosley imposed upon by an Allowance of 25 perches more for uneaueness of the ground w^{h} you observe "on information was too much by 10 or 12 perchs" M^{r} Chamberlaine & M^{r} Gale were the Comiss^{rs} the latter I am inform'd Estimates himself on the Mathematicks. The papers with the assertions in answ^{r} to M^{r} Logans Case of the Claims ag^{t} Mess^{rs} Penns you sent are of Service. My Lord is well pleased with the remove of the Magistrate, who Ill-treated M^{r} Vazey on his taking observations near the North Temporary Line, & depends you will at all times exert & obstruct the Encroachm^{ts} of the Penns on that part of his Province, Essential to him.

M^{r} Keys request to you, w^{h} you desire of me for his son as County Clerk when a Vacancy happens you have my Consent to note such Appointm^{t} in My Office, Exclusive of that to M^{r} Dulany.

It Gives me pleasure that his Majestys Arms (in lieu of those borrowed of the Province destined on the Canada Expedition) are arrived in the Province. the Obtaining of them cost me much pains, But no Other than as my Duty. In answ^{r} to y^{rs} of the 8th of Aug^{t} Answ^{r} to mine the 5th of Ian^{y} last, y^{r} Let^{r} to S^{r} Tho^{s} Robinson Sec^{y} of State is delivered as also y^{rs} to the Earl of Hallifax & Lords Comiss^{rs} of Trade & Plantation. You please me much in approving my Reasoning with Respect to the Law of 12^{d} p^{r} hogs^{d} the support of Goverm^{t} What I have said is grounded by facts on Record in the Province & Admits of no Concessions in prejudice to that Right.

Relative to y^r^ mention about the Merch^ts^ Compl^t^ ag^t^ the Law you pass'd last Oct^r^ Sessions Viz^t^ "The Suplementary Act to the Act Intituled an Act for the Relief of Creditors in England." The Merch^ts^ here say, they must Expect little from Bankrupts in Maryland, whose Creditors by the Act are to have prior paym^t^ to such in England the Mess^rs^ Hanbury's have noted it most, no petition ag^t^ the Act has as yet been Offered My Lord. For my part I regard the Act proper & think y^r^ Arguments in Support of it clear & cogent. they are a body tenacious ag^t^ one another, none as the first care to lead opposition, afeard to hurt his gain from his Corespond^t^ from w^h^ the Province may Enjoy at least for time an Advantage Law. Calvert Papers.

The Tobacco Law has been with advice well Considered by My Lord & has by his inclosed Inst^ns^ his Determination by the Law nothing is allowed to My Lord but his share of Enacting. The reasons & objections given by the Proprietor & the Statute of Queen Ann about Foreign Coins are real Obstacles ag^t^ the Act & the Officers ffees seems certain wo^d^ a been as well paid as has been Customary to do. I can't help being of opinion that a valuation given to Coin more than its Value by the Act, must be greatly prejudicial to private Money Interest in Maryland; the Lender by fforeign Coin will gain by the Law much Surplus Value than the Cur^y^ of the Coin is in Value & it will Effect in Diminution the paper Cur^y^ of the Province, w^h^ will be good as Sterling, as I have observed in a former Let^r^ It is certain in all Countrys Trade & Manufactures only flourish by Ster^g^ value: If Pensilvania Virginia & the Colonies who accord^g^ to the Act can lend by sending fforeign Coin into Maryland, going for more than its Value with them, the return must be by Ballance against Maryland, all returns in Exch^ge^ being Ster^g^ in Value, therefore the Surplus Value of Coin must be a loss to Maryland.

The Copies of the Laws Enacted last Feb^y^ & May & the Copies of proceed^gs^ of Assembly of both Houses of July last are Rece^d^ The Laws as yet have not had my Lords full consideration as far as I am Iudge of their Tendency I conceive no objection than that of no Notice is had of the Proprietor, but that of his share of Authority, you have by his present Inst^ns^ concern^g^ ordinary of Hawkers & Pedlars Licences for y^r^ future Conduct thereon

Inclosed I send you the Heirs of M^r^ Bennet's Case stated, with M^r^ Murray the Attor^y^ Gen^ls^ Opinion in relation to the Act you pass'd in Oct^r^ Sessions. His Lord^ps^ Inst^ns^ allows me nothing to say, his Reasons being sufficient for his Dissent to the Act.

You observe, "That it has been found impracticable to dis-

Calvert Papers.

possess persons of any Surplusage Land w^{h} they hold by Patents in w^{h} such Land is described by Natural Boundaries, tho the Patent shou^{d} err considerably in the Numbers of Acres contained therein" The Dispossession is difficult & will be very Expensive to force from those who hold Surplus tracts of Land under Extensive old Patents, who as you observe "Will never Resurvey the same upon the Conditions that are at present insisted on by the Agent before he Grants Warrant of Resurvey as he requires the Arrerages of such Surplus from the date of the Patent" The Remedy you propose to adjust between My Lord & such Tenants seems to me prudent & judicious Viz^{t} "to Permit the Patentee to have Warrant of Resurvey for his Land upon condition he shall pay for the Surplus henceforward at the Original reserved Rent" It will be an immediate Increase of his Lord^{ps} Revenue by Quit Rent much to his Advantage, & will set out the vacant Land not granted in the County. But of this matter for the present, has from hence no Direction, you informing on Consultation with M^{r} Lloyd you will write more particular thereon.

Concern^{g} Indian Lands on the East shore, reference to the Acts for Quieting the Possessions of the Indians inhabiting on Nanticoke & Choptank Rivers. Section the 1st "The Nanticoke Indians shall peaceably Possess all that tract of Land . . . as long as they shall occupy the same . . . But they shall not sell or Lease the same" The Choptank Indians shall peaceably Possess the Land surveyed for them so long as they shall occupy the same Section 2^{d} they shall not sell or lease it except (3^{dh}) No lease to be longer than 7 years. The Acts point Comiss^{rs} to Survey & ascertain the bounds of these Indians possessions My Lord desires you will require as his Orders to the Land office to Report to you How these Indian Lands be at present Q^{re} if Indians upon the Premises if few, whether worth his Purchase to have their right & to Establish Inhabitants, making the Lands occupy'd Properties & thereby prevent Illegal Setlers? These Lands by scituation are near the dispute of the 3 Lower Counties if by Perchase the Mess^{rs} Penns can take Advantage they will, therefore My Lord desires your care & consideration to obtain him Possession of the Lands, if Material & in Safe-Guard & good Policy ag^{t} the Pensilvanian Enchroachm^{ts} who on the East Shore are in Possession of a Considerable Country, in so much, I Question if there be an Inlet as a Sea Port for Maryland on that Shore towards the Atlantick Ocean. Espically if the Division Line be allowed to commence East from Fenwick Island. Besides great Care is to be had ag^{t} their claim of Prior settlem^{t} it seems a Maxim of Right Guarrenteed them by the Minets taken of the present Lord Chancelor's opinion on hearing the cause bet: them &

the late Lord "That the Country who first got possession & set up Marks tho' no regular Colony got the right by Occupation. If then not so, this in Law as great a Deception on the Crown as any, pretend to involve the King in Warr, cannot be a greater Deception. Cause of War, setling such a Country, would be a ground to Repeal by Scire Facias . . . so stands on Grants." This is high Doctrine, seems under the Title of Responsa Prudentum, & from this opinion may be collected that in a Case of Contract between the Soveraign & the Subject Nothing shall tend to prejudice the Cause of the Soveraign. This tho' agreeable to Law under the Title of Responsa Prudentum, that is to say, the opinions of Lawyers is not therefore Law, because Responsa Prudentum, But because Charters are admitt'd by the Soveraign & when there is a Case of Private Contract bet: the Soveraign & the Subject, nothing shall Effect the Cause of the King or be allowed but upon a Supposition that the same was reasonable from the Beginning. Calvert Papers.

Thus much by Digression I conjecture to write on the General Ground of Laws Natural & Politick. I observe in the Votes & Proceedings of the Lo: House of Assembly the 26th of Febr last, A Motion by a Member Concernᵍ the 3000 Acres of Land in Somerset County for the use of the Nanticok Indians, that them Indians for some time pass have omitt'd to occupy & have quitt'd the Possession of them Lands. "The Act in 1704 of those Lands says Sextion 1st "To be held of the Lord Proprietary & His Heirs at the yearly Rent of one Bear Skin to be paid to his Lordᵖ & his Heirs. Provided that it shall be Lawfull for any Person that hath formerly taken up & Obtain'd Grants from Lord Baltimore upon the Indians Descertᵍ the said Land to Enter, occupy & Enjoy the same Sextion the Last says, That it shall not be Lawfull for Lord Baltimore to ask or have any Rent &c. of the said Tracts or Devided parts as may have been taken up aforesaid within the said Indian Boundary until such time the takers up & owners aforesaid do enjoy or possess the same" An Act in 1723 Section 1st says, of the Nanticoke Indians & their Descendants shall have hold occupy possess & enjoy Possesion during such space of time as they shall use & not totally desert the same accordᵍ to an Act in 1698 Intituled an Act for Ascertainᵍ the Bounds of a Certain Tract of Land to the use of the Nanticoke Indians so Long as they shall occupy & Live upon the same." By these Acts, if these Indians have left their Tract of Land, it Reverts to the Lord Proprietor, except such Prior Grants made out as to Particular parts aforesaid. The motion of the Member seems obvious, was to take the Governmᵗ unguarded & by a New Act to strip the Lord Proprietor of his

Calvert Papers.

Right & appoint the Land for other Purposes. His Lord^{p} thanks you for y^{r} Clear Decernm^{t} & service therein & Desires, you'l lose no time to order the Land Surveyor to Plan the Premises with Enter into his Land Office, by Style & Title of Bridgewater Mañor, & that the Land may be Occupied by Setlers under the same conditions his Lord^{ps} Mañor Lands are. These properties, will increase the Proprietors Revenues when all the Land is sold, the Period of time when the Land Office will cease. The Choptank Indian Land his Lord^{p} Directs under the Title of the Mañor of Egerton on vacancy in Honour to his Lady.

Concern^{g} M^{r} Darnall Attor^{y} Gen^{l} in y^{rs} Iune the 1st you seem to think him not Sufficiently qualified for that Employ, otherwise a Well Behaved sensible Man. 'Tis Certain, the most able Lawyer ought to be for that Service, What think you of M^{r} Bordley Counselor at Law. He is said to be so. His Lord^{p} in his Inst^{ns} to you appoints him for Naval Officer at Patuxent on y^{r} request, make his acceptance conditional by taking the Employ of Attor^{y} Gen^{l} Both the Proffits will be good reward to him. As to M^{r} Darnall, My Lords Inst^{ns} Rewards him Deserving. The return of the Laws to the Council is desired to be Quickn'd. Of County Work Houses you Note for Vagrants. My Lord Approves well of such a Law, care being taken in the formation thereof to hinder that the persons Employ'd make not the Staple Manufactures of Great Britain, from Produce of Maryland, as it will occasion a Petition to Parliam^{t} ag^{t} such Provincial Manufacture. The Mother Country will not Suffer Prejudice by Loss of Supply to her Colonies & by her Traffick Especially in Cloath to Foreign Markets. With relation to the Council Allowance. The Extracts Concern^{g} I sent you were to prove the same due. My Lords Inst^{ns} with you speaks of Concessions by them, w^{h} he has been in hopes wo^{d} have adjusted the Difference bet: them & the Lo: House, if that will not do, his Lord^{p} Considers it not on him to be subject to a Demand or call upon him. Of his Consideration to the Council, the Upp^{r} House, he thinks he gives proof in as much as they Enjoy from him the Most Lucrative Employs in the Province; However, that is no Reason with him why they are to cease their Legislative Demand on the Public, any more than the Lo: House Doth.

The affair of the Ohio, the Defeat of Major Washington by the French is the Subject here, Losst from his Un-Military Skill. Major Gen^{l} Bradock with Considerable Forces & a Grand Train of Artillery having taken Departure for America, leaves Me little to say on that Head, as his Arrival will inform you of the Expidition Truly. I incert some Extract Minits out of the Votes of the Co$\bar{m}$ons as it relates in General to America Viz^{t}

"Votes of the House Mercurii 11th Die Decembris 1754. Calvert Papers.
"The order of the Day being read for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House to Consider of the Bill for Punishg Mutiny & Desertion & for the better payment of the Army & their Quarters Ordered, That it be an Instn to the said Committee, that they have Power to receive a Clause or Clauses to provide, that all Officers & Soldiers of any Troops being Mustered & in pay wh are or shall be raised in any of the British Provinces in America by Authority of the Respective Governors or Goverments thereof, shall at all Times & in all Places when they happen to join or Act in Conjunction with his Majesty's British Forces, be liable to Martial Law & Discipline in like manner to all intents and Purposes as the British Forces are, & shall be Subject to the same Tryal Penalties & Punishments."

Decr the 17th On closing, I have yrs Octr the 25th Williamsbourg Virginia, I immediately Delivered yrs Inclosed at Sr Thos Robinson Secy of State & yrs to Lord Baltimore who says, yr Intelligence is obliging. The 20th Instant I was with Sr Thos who said he had lain your Letr before the King & that his Majesty express'd, he was pleased with the Contents. This Day I have yrs the 2d & 15th of Sepr with the Duplicates of the Laws in Feby & May last. The remark you make on the Law concerng Ordinary Licences pass'd in 1746 Rectifyes the Mistake of the Uppr House being out three or four years by Calculation. The Revd Mr Copp you have not heard of continues in Carolina The Benefice intend'd for him, My Lord gives you leave to dispose of & of St Johns & Christ Church in Queen Anne County their Income is so smal 'tis Difficult to get Clergy here to Accept. 'Tis with concern I understand from you the progress of the French & their Strenghing themselves by Forts on Monongahala River in the Ohio Country, & that they have begun one on Greenbrier River in Augusta County Virginia, too Near Maryland, however by yrs Octr the 25th the Money being Arriv'd from England to Virginia & that the Comand of his Majesty's Forces being in you I am in hopes, the Aid came in Time to Enable you to a Defeat of them & their Designs. The Colonies have been Dilitory in their Supplys, the preversness of the Assemblys has occasion'd some of the Govrs to Apply Home for an Act of Parliament to be obligatory on the Colonies, to Contribute their Quotas in Defence of his Majestys American Dominion. The Consideration of the Goverm^t thereon I can't say however it wod be Best the Americans did not Subject themselves to Tax from hence.

Inclosed is the Report of the Lords of Trade to the Lords of the Council abt the Import of Salt from Foreign parts to Maryland

Calvert Papers. as it will be of great Advantage I hope of the Goverm^{ts} Interest for an Act of Parliam^{t} for that purpose, tho' much doubt it, from their Lord^{ps} Observation in the Report, that it may Effect his Majesty's Revenue. Inclosed is a Let^{r} from My Lord to you, the Contents in part I know is of a Gratuity for M^{r} W——— a Person you was in Company with My Lord I am sensible you will add much Estimation with his Lord^{p} by imeadiate Compliance with his desire towards him, either out of that he points out to you or by some other; you'l excuse this hint to be mindfull to the Desires of a Real Friend, for such is My Lord. My Lord desires of you the Number of White Inhabitants & of Blacks. May all Happiness attend you if Left any Material unansw^{d} in y^{rs} such shall be in the Next from him who is, with Real Respect

Y^{r} Very Obedient Hum^{ble} Serv^{t}
Cæcil^{s} Calvert.

Letter Bk. II. p. 31 [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Annapolis Decem^{r} 10th [1754]

Sir

I returned last Thursday from Wills Creek where I found the Independants preparing for themselves Barracks, having already compleated the small Stoccado Fort about which you were advised they had been employed; but as the Fort they have finished is exceedingly small its Exterior Side not exceeding 120 feet I conceived it requisite or rather absolutely necessary to have another much larger raised on an adjacent & more elevated piece of Ground which I have ordered the Maryland Company to proceed on & I hope they will be able to finish it this winter. The Eminence on which it will be situated gives it an entire Command of that already compleated & will defend a Face of that small Fort to which an Enemy might at present approach without being much annoyed or hardly seen from within. however That on which The Troops have been employed may be useful at present & will serve to enclose Store Houses or a Magazine after the other is compleated which I think by an advanced Out Work or two will be easily defended against a considerable number of Troops that may presume to attack it with only a light Train. At my Arrival at the Camp I was much surprized & concerned to find there
p. 32 was no more Provision in the Fort than would suffice the Troops for one Day which I earnestly hope will not be the Case again lest the Enemy should get Intelligence thereof & by posting themselves in different Parties on the adjacent Hills prevent the Arrival of Supplies whereby the Garrison &

all the Troops notwithstanding their Advantageous Situation Letter Bk. II.
must be reduced to the necessity of retiring & destroying or
relinquishing the Fort their other Works & perhaps their Bag-
gage to the Enemy. that nothing will be wanting on your
part to avert such an Accident I am well persuaded but con-
ceive the Troops will never be well supplied with Provision
unless a very different Scheme from that hitherto followed be
pursued. The most frugal & most likely means in my Opinion
of having that Affair well managed will be to appoint a Com-
missary of Reputation Ability & some fortune who with the
Assistance of a Deputy & a Clerk will be able to attend &
execute that Business in a proper & satisfactory manner. His
Clerk always & himself for the most part to be resident in the
Magazine at Wills Creek to receive Cure & deliver the Pro-
visions & if He be not entrusted himself with Authority to con-
tract for Provision yet to him should be sent Copies of all
Contracts as soon as they are made that he might know when to
expect the Supplies engaged for & might be able to inform
himself before the Time specified in Contracts for Delivery
whether the Venders be in a Condition to comply with the
Terms of their Contracts & in Case of a probability or Pros-
pect of their failure be it his Care to give immediate notice to
the Commanding Officer that proper & speedy measures may
be taken to prevent any ill Consequence from such an Event.
it will be also his Care to make the most of the Skins Tallow p. 33
&c for the publick which well managed & disposed of will be
a considerable Saving to the Government. the Regulating the
Books & in Case of His Masters Absence the Care of deliver-
ing out Provisions to the Deputy will be sufficient Business for
the Clerk, & when the Troops leave Wills Creek the Deputy
must always receive & take Charge of the Provisions & to
deliver it out at stated times to the Troops. This Affair of
Victualing the Troops being a matter of the greatest Import-
ance It will I doubt not be committed to a person of Honour
& Ability, wherefore I hope you will take my Proposal into
Consideration & if you approve thereof acquaint me what you
think a sufficient Recompence or Sallary for such a Service, &
if you have not engaged with any Gent^{n} to act in such a
Capacity I can I believe venture to recommend or appoint one
whose Character, fortune, & Ability render him equal to the
undertaking. Whoever shall be employed to purchase pro-
vision of any Kind for the future I think should be directed to
insert in all their Contracts a Clause subjecting the Vender to
a large Penalty in Case of his non-Compliance with the Con-
ditions specified in the Contract that all extraordinary Expence
incurred by his neglect or Inability might be defrayed by the
penalty & the Governm^{t} thereby indemnified. Care should

Letter Bk. II. also be taken to oblige the Venders by their Contracts to make the Delivery at Wills Creek & no where else unless any Persons may be disposed to engage for the Delivery of what they supply (whether it be cured or Live Stock fit to kill) to the Deputy Commissary at any place the Troops may march to after their Departure from Wills Creek & you will perhaps
p. 34 think it proper to encourage them to enter into such Engagements & Stall-feed their Cattle during the winter by advancing them a proportionate Price for whatever they will agree to furnish in that manner. I have inclosed you a Calculation of the Expence of supplying 3000 Men with Provisions for 8 months, which Quantity I apprehend it will be necessary to lay into the Magazine at Wills Creek immediately by reason I conceive it will be very difficult if not impossible to procure Beeves or Hogs fit for the Slaughter after this Month & next till July or the August following.

My Estimate is made in Maryland Currency which is at this time with Sterling at about 65 ꝑ C^{t} Discount. The Expence of the hired waggons I could not know, neither have I taken any notice of the number that will be wanted for carrying Ammunition & Baggage. You will be pleased to give Directions (if you have not already ordered a sufficient number to be made or purchased) that Barrells enough to receive the meat be immediately laid in, the most eligible way I think would have been to send proper workmen & Coopers to have Cut & prepared Staves & made them up near the Camp but as I am dubious it will be now too late to proceed in that manner (for unless the Timber be washed or cleaned from Sap before it is made up there will be a great probability of its damaging or quite spoiling the meat with which they shall be filled) I hope you will give strict Orders to have them procured or prepared in the best manner that the time will permit, & in the mean time I think the Comissary might proceed to salt up some Provision in large Troughs or Vatts that might be made
p. 35 for that purpose I was told on my journey that at the late Secretary Carter's Estate there are a large number of Hogs to be disposed of, if you should think fit to order them to be purchased you will take Care to have it agreed that they be not driven to the Camp till a quantity of Salt be carried up & Receptacles for the meat first made & here I must observe to you that there had not been any Salt in Camp for a considerable time before my Arrival there when I got some brought up on Horses Backs. The Cattle that had been driven to the Fort, for want thereof could not be killed but were permitted to range the woods & to hinder their Stragling quite off it was found necessary to hire Herdsmen constantly to range & ride thro the woods to prevent their passing the

mountains. this has occasioned an extraordinary Expence & Letter Bk. II.
as Mr Gist had pledged the publick Faith for their payment, I thought myself obliged lest that should suffer & to induce the Herdsmen to take care of the Cattle till they can be killed to advance them in part of their wages 15 Pistoles. I was much concerned having such frequent & incessant Applications made to me all the time I tarried at the Camp by numbers of People who have credited Mr Carlyle & His Agents on the publick Account; such Delay as they complain of in satisfying their Demands has reduced the publick Credit to a very Low Ebb which will be attended with very bad Consequences I am afraid unless some Steps can be taken to retrieve it. I hope you will be pleased to order Mr Carlyle without farther Hesitation to discharge all Debts that he has contracted with any of those people particularly the person whose waggon was pressed to bring off the men who were unfortunately wounded p. 36
at the Engagement at the Meadows. I was importuned also a good Deal by Mr Gists Creditors with some of whom I am indeed somewhat suspicious that he has hardly acted the honest part; wherefore I would beg the favour of you to signify to me what sums were advanced to him when He was at Williamsburg & for what uses that I may examine whether all the Complaints against him are without foundation I was told that He did receive several Sums of Money of you to discharge a good many Debts but that instead of appropriating it in that manner He paid off with part thereof some old Debts that he had contracted on his own private Account & with the Remainder purchased a Quantity of Goods to trade with also on his own Account. Gist acknowledged to me that He had received £45. for Andrew Montour but Montour did not receive a Farthing thereof by which He complained to me that His private Affairs & Credit had received no small Detriment, wherefore I was induced to advance him £25. His Sallary as Indian Interpreter & £20. towards defraying the Expence of the 18 Men raised by Your Order & supported from the 26th of May to the 26th of November. A Copy of his Account I herein inclose. the Money I advanced him made him pretty easy for the present but as He declares himself in want of more, I hope if his Account cannot be objected to the Arrears will be much reduced by another payment His Behaviour while I was at the Camp prejudiced me in his favour & as I esteem him a very useful Person I will endeavour by all means to keep him firm in our Interest. I find He has some Expec- p. 37
tations of being considered for his Attendance & Services at the Treaty which Mr Innes held at Wills Creek with some of the Chiefs of the six nations if you approve of giving him any thing more than his Allowance you will be pleased to

Letter Bk. II. remit it him or signify as much to me that at my Return I might satisfy his Expectations. One James Johnson also made a Complaint to me against M^r^ Gist alledging that some time before Gist went to Williamsburg, he agreed with him for 18 Beeves which Johnson was to drive to Salisbury Plain & receive the money for them at Gist's Return to the Camp, but when in pursuance of the Agreement the Beeves were brought He was then told by Gist that as he could not procure money at Williamsburg to pay for the Cattle He must be excused for declining the Bargain & said that M^r^ Johnson must also give a little longer Credit for some money due to him for Flour that He had delivered in at the Camp some time before for that He could at present let him have one pistole only in Part of Payment. Johnson complains that apprehending Gist was empowered to contract for the Government he reserved the Cattle for him & has neglected & refused every other market or Chapman whereby he must greatly suffer unless you will be pleased to direct that the Beasts be accepted & payed for according to his Agreement. As there were a number of fine Beeves offered for Sale while I was at the Camp & the Owners on finding no purchasers there, were about to take them away to Phila^a^ I
p. 38 ordered Col^o^ Cresap (who has the Care of laying in provisions for the Maryland Company to contract for them & keep them till they can be slaugtered imagining that if those were driven away others of equal Goodness would not be procured this winter on such easy terms what the Cost of them is I will let you know as soon as Cresap sends me the Accounts, & I also expect to be drawn on at the same time for the Price of 6 Waggons which I have agreed for & will be brought to Wills Creek loaded with Flour at 12/ ꝑ C^t^ I would have agreed for more to put things in the greatest forwardness but was doubtful that £70. for a Waggon Harness & four Horses was too extravagant a Price. I cannot but think that the several Rivers & waters that occur & intersect the Road from Belhaven to Wills-Creek on the South Side of Potowmack will render the Conveyance of Stores that way expensive & very uncertain wherefore I apprehend it will be the best & easiest way to land every thing that shall be sent up Potowmack for the Troops at Rock Creek whence our waggons will carry them to Conegocheek where Battoes may be made to convey every thing thence by water. I have ordered a Batteau or two to be made & then I shall after Tryal be able to estimate the Expence of that method & will give Orders for those 6 waggons to be employed between that place & Rock Creek. I wish you could find it easy to engage a few Ship Carpenters & send them to the Camp & order up thither some Cartridge
p. 39 paper, Moulds for Musket & Swan Shot, wire for Screws &

prickers Flints & match for the Carriage Guns, & also send up Letter Bk. II.
some wampum there being but little remaining at the Camp.
I have given Orders for raising a Company of 30 Rangers to
be composed of People conversant with the woods & Back
Country to be employed as Scouts & parties of Intelligence &
as Guides to any Detachments from the other Troops whom I
might think proper to send abroad. Mr Cox applied to me for
a Commission referring me to you for a Character but many
Circumstances lead me to think he is very unworthy of your
Countenance or favour. Mr Burney did not Choose to exer-
cise his Trade for 2/6 or 3/ a Day & of his Fitness or Capacity
for an Abassador I have very little reason to be satisfied. In
my way thro Belhaven I advanced Colo Stevens 98 Pistoles to
be divided among the Officers who are gone a Recruiting.
The South Carolina Company have not a Single Blankett or
Matchcoat among them but expect & hope to be supplied by
the Govr of Virginia from an Opinion that you have already
made the New York Companies a Present of that kind. I told
them that I imagined that if the New York Companies had
been supplied since their Arrival in Virginia they were by the
Governt. made Debtors for the same & that payment would be
expected from their respective Officers. You will be pleased
to inform me if that be the Case & if the others have been
supplied at free Cost I think as these stand in equal need you
will incline to make them the like present. Since the Treaty
was held with some of the Six Nations at Wills Creek a party p. 40
of those People being ignorant what Agreement or Treaties
those warriors of their nations at Wills Creek had made &
before the Return of them home marched off to attack the
Catawba Nation upon this Intelligence I sent off a Messenger
to the Catawbas to advise them what Enemies they may
expect to be attacked by & to what Cause such a proceeding of
the Six Nation Party is owing lest they should have deemed
this Attack on them to be a Breach of Faith after such a
Treaty had been held at Wills Creek & I hope the Messenger
will not find any Difficulty in prevailing with them notwith-
standing this Affair to be present at the Treaty to be held next
April at Winchester. I have this moment received a Letter
from Colonel Innes acquainting me that He had received
Intelligence by an Indian, of the Arrival of 1100 French & 70
Adirondacks at Fort De Quisne & that 400 French & 200
Canuagas & Ottoways were at the Head of Ohio ready to
come down that as soon as the Adirondacks came to the Fort
the French Commandant sent them in 3 Divisions against the
English Back Inhabitants but whether against the Inhabitants
of Virginia or this Province the Indian could not learn the
same Indian informed him also that 300 French Families have

Letter Bk. II. settled this Fall at Madcreek on this side the Twightwee & not far from the Maguck Town. Apprehensive that such a great Reinforcement will not lye idle & inactive this winter I have writ to Col° Stevens ordering him to get every thing ready for a march to the Camp & to let me know what Day the Troops will be ready to march that I might take a Ride thither & Review them before their Departure & I beleive that as soon as I shall have dismissed our Assembly who are to meet this
p. 41 Day I shall return again to Wills Creek. As I am entirely unacquainted with what Steps you have taken to gain the Indian nations I should be obliged to you for informing me what has been already done & what you would advise me to do farther & whether you are of Opinion that any Service might be done or Benefit received from our sending proper Messengers to the Twightwees desiring their Assistance & also to the Southern nations, the Cherokees Catawbas Creeks & Chicasaws. I should have mentioned to you that I have given Colonel Innes Orders to deliver to the Officers of the three Independant Companies £12 Ster^g^ to be distributed among the private Men of each Company as extraordinary pay for the Labour they have undergone in building their Barracks. Captain Polson has writ to me to order an Enquiry to be made by a Court Marshal into his Conduct, I should be very glad to know whether it be agreeable to you that I comply with his Request Your Letter dated the 12^th^ of November I found at my Return to Annapolis. the Stores except the 6 Carriage Guns I have ordered to the Camp from M^r^ Lewis's Description of these Guns I am apprehensive they are only 4 Pounders therefore you will forbid the making of any Shot till M^r^ Lewis makes me an exact Return descriptive of them. There are now at Wills Creek Captain Clark being not yet returned, Three Captains Eight Lieutenants one Ensign Twelve Sergeants thirteen Corporals Seven Drummers & 295 private men the Maryland Company included. With the greatest Regard I am &c.

P. S. The French Prisoners at Winchester are in a distresful situation especially the Officer who is almost naked, if you think proper you may be pleased to order them to Belhaven where they may be better taken Care of & perhaps give the Officer Leave to walk the Town on His parole of honour.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 98

p Capt. Tomson.

10th December [1754]

Sir,

the Captain who is charged with this having only this moment waited on me to know my Commands to England & being in haste to be dismissed I have only time to acquaint you that our Assembly is to meet this Day & that I am a little fearful they will not be found so well disposed to do the Business for which they are convened as I could wish. Capt p. 99
Coolidge will sail in 3 or 4 Days, by him I will do myself the honour of addressing you again & of transmitting another Letter to the Secretary of State. I am &c.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Virginia Williamsburg Decr 17th 1754.

Sir

Your Letter of the 10th I recd last Night & am glad of your safe return to Annapolis. I am much surprized that the Fort built at Wills's Creek is in such situation as to be Commanded by an Emenence near to it, it was ill judged when begun not to consider that; & I much approve of your ordering another to be built on that Emenence.

The want of Provisions in the Camp gives me very great uneasiness on receipt of your former Letter, which is much owing to the Indolence & Neglect of the Comissary; to prevent this for the Future, I apointed two Comissaries one Mr Chas Dick a Person of Fortune, & well known in the back Counties & one Mr Thomas Walker a Person of Fortune & great Activity. The first is to make Purchases & order the Provisions to be delivered at the Camp & the other is to receive & pay for them, & see them properly issued to the Men, this Step I hope will for the Future keep the Forces properly supplied, & I shall send Money from Time to Time to make punctual Payments; I propose paying each Comissary 200 p Annum, & they are to have an Agent at Winchester to forward every Thing to the Camp & I shall send up blank Bonds to tye the Venders to a punctual Compliance with their Contracts, a List thereof to be sent to the Comissary at the Camp, & my Proposal is that one of them or a Person properly qualified always attend the Forces. These Gentlemen were approved by the Council, who's Advice I took as being a Stranger to them, otherways I shou'd gladly complied with the Gentleman you had in View. I shall write them if possible to

encourage the People to Stall feed some of their Cattle, & engage a large Quantity of Bacon.

Your Calculation for supplying 3000 Men for eight Months, I think very accurate, it's a large Quantity to provide so late in the year, & the greatest difficulty will be providing Cash & Salt. M^r^ Carlyle told me when here that he had sent a Quantity of Salt to the Camp, which now surprizes me that there was none there. I have ordered M^r^ Dick to send a Quantity imediately which I doubt not is done & desired him to buy Negroe Coopers, or hire Coopers to go to Wills's Creek to make Cask for packing the Provisions in.

The Charge of Waggonage I conceive will be monstrous large, & I think the most frugal Method will be to purchase twenty for the present which I presume you may get in Pensylvania. The Quantity of Barrels wanted are not to be procured here in two years Time if Salt is to be purchased reasonable with you, if a Quantity was put in Barrels it wou'd answer in some Degree, & indeed Pork salted in Bulk may keep till Aprill, but then it shou'd be barrel'd up. As for Hoggs, M^r^ Dick writes me he can procure 1000 & more, delivered at Wills's Creek at 2^d^ ℔ lb. which is better than buying at M^r^ Carters. It is surprizing Carlyle was so neglectful as not to have Salt to cure the Beef, you acted very properly in hiring herdsmen to take Care of the Cattle. I am under surprize & uneasy that Carlyle has not paid the People, he rec^d^ from me £905.. 7.. 10 for 306 Head of Cattle, in which was included those bought by M^r^ Gist, & he was present when I paid him & M^r^ Carlyle was also paid in October for all the Waggonage & one or two lost in the Service, & every other Demand he brought in against the Public I must therefore esteem him unjust in not paying the poor People, & I shall imediately write him properly on that Head—he rec^d^ from me 1299.. 12.. 9 (besides the above sum) to pay for Provisions & other Necessaries supplied the Independent Companies; & he rec^d^ from the Treasurer the Ball^a^ due on Acc^t^ of the Virginia regim^t^

M^r^ Gist rec^d^ 45£ to pay to M^r^ Montour, but by the Acc^t^ sent appears he paid him only 20£ what other Monies he had was from Carlyle to pay for Cattle purchased the particular Sum I know not.—M^r^ Montour's Acc^t^ is very unfair, he had no orders to raise the Men charged, he had the Comission to protect him in Case he shou'd fall into the Hands of the French, as he is proscribed by them, he was to attend the Camp go out upon Scouts when ordered by the Comanding officer. I esteem the Man & procured him a standing Salary as Interpreter of 25£ ℔ Ann. after the Skermish at the Meadows he went home from the Camp & yet charges his Mens Pay till

26th of last Month, the Acct is made up for him by some of the Woodsmen, who are a very bad set of People he may be a very useful Man if he can be kept from these Wretches; If he is allowed his own Pay & Salary he cannot expect to be paid as Interpreter at the last Treaty—I dare say Johnstons Beeves are included in the 306 I paid, & am convinced all the Supply of Flour was paid, they therefore do wrong in not paying him. Gist was never employ'd by me to make any Contracts if he was by Mr Carlyle he is to answer for him. If you desire it, I will pay for the Beeves at Mr Cresaps when I know the Amo.—I am not a Judge of Waggons &c but as they are much wanted, I think you shou'd purchase Twenty, & when you write me I shall either send Money or a Bill of Exchª to pay for them; four of them to be sent from Wills's Creek to Winchester will be constantly employ'd in carrying Provisions &c. to the Camp & probably may have the good Effect of engaging the Country People to hire their Waggons at moderate Prices. I shall be glad if the Method you propose for Conveying Provisions &c from Belhaven by Rock Creek, Conegocheek &c may prove Successful, but I fear in Freshes the Battoes cannot go up, & in Sumer they will want Water, but a Tryal will not be amiss. In the mean Time I have ordered flat bottom'd Boats to be built on all the runs from Winchester to Wills's Cre'k, such that will receive a Waggon; & I am told by cutting a new road from Winchester to Wills's Creek, they can shorten the way 30 Miles, which I have ordered to be done—I shall endeavour to procure some Carpenters. I think there is at Alexandria Cartridge Paper, Flint & Match, the other Things I shall endeavour to procure I shall send the Wampum up. Raingers are surely a very necessary People as Scouts, but pray be on your Guard in respect to the Traders, who appear to me to be an abandon'd sett of Fellows, however if you can pick out such you can confide in they will be of great use on many occasions—Mr Cox know no more of him, than a small Knowledge of him formerly in Bermuda, but his Character with you is the only rule to guide in Affairs of that Nature, & I therefore will by no means interfere.—Mr Burney was very solicitous with me for a Comission, which I by no means thot him equal to, but proposed his acting as Armourer at 2/6 p Day, he refused & pray'd my Letter to you—Colo Stephens wrote me you had advanc'd him some Money for recruiting. The So Carolina Compª shd be supplied with Blankets, but this Colony will not pay for them; as they are a very good Company, I think the Capt may draw for such necessary Supply the N. York Company's must pay for theirs—It was entirely right & kind of you to send to the Catawbas, informing them of the Warriors that were gone out against them to put them

on their Guard, & I shall be very glad the Meeting at Winchester may succeed, for a Peace between the Northern & Southern Indians I have had greatly at heart—At that Treaty it was agreed that Monacatoocha shou'd carry a black Belt of Wampum & a Hatchet to the Six Nations at Onondago, acquainting them that some of the six Nations, Shawannoes & Delawars had taken up the Hatchet against the French, & desiring them to do the same. If this cou'd be effected it wou'd be of great Service in engaging many Tribes of Indians to join us. Col° Innes desires me to send four Belts of black Wampum, for this Dominion Maryland, Pensylv[a] & N York, which is wrong, but have now wrote the Gov[r] of N York on that Subject for his Interest with these People to declare themselves in our Fav° & if he see proper to send a black Belt in behalf of this Colony. A Letter from you to him on the same Subject, I think would be proper.

I am sorry for the Acc[t] Col° Innes sends you of the arrival of 1100 French & 70 Arondocks at the Fort. I am in Hopes the Intelligence is false; first because Indians cannot count Numbers, & as they must pass Oswego Fort, the Gov[r] of N. York promised to give me due Intelligence of any Numbers that passed that way; but we must conclude they will bring as many Forces as they possibly can by the Spring of the Year.

And I have reason to expect 1000 regulars from Great Britain in six Weeks Time. The Transports were taken up in October last, & Comodore Keple in a 50 Gun Ship comes their Convoy.—I also doubt the 400 French & Indians at the Head of the Ohio, or the 300 Families settled at Mad Creek. I shall be very glad to have the Acc[ts] contradicted. I am glad you have ordered Col° Stephens to march, & that you will review them, there is a Company of fifty on the Frontiers of Augusta, that shall join the others when you write me to that purpose.

Your Presence at the Camp will undoubtedly be of very great Service, I therefore hope your Assembly will not sit long, & that they will consider properly our present situation, & grant you a further Supply. The Cherokees & Catawbas I think are strongly in our Interest. I have wrote M[r] Glen to influence them & to perswade a Number of their Warriors to join our Forces near the Ohio, early in the Spring—And I am fully convinced a Message to the Twightwers will be of great Service as they have hitherto appeared strong Enemies to the French; if they knew our Intentions they may be of great use in galling the Enemy in their rear, or at least prevent a thorough Junction of their Indians; the sooner this is done I think the better, but it must be such Messengers you can confide in.

What you order Col° Innes to do in regard to paying the

Independ^{ts} for building the Fort shall be allowed him—What Cap^{t} Polson dem^{ds} a Court Martial for I know not, unless it is on this Subject, I order'd Col^{o} Stephens to send him & Cap^{t} Waggener to go a recruiting, he refused going, on which I wrote him a Letter on the Subject which he has not answered; I was angry he refused my orders delivered him by Col^{o} Stephens; for which I think he deserves a severe repremand at least, if not something worse, I must therefore refer this to you—I am sorry the Guns are only four Pounders, those at the Camp are of the same Size. Cap^{t} Arburthnott says they are six Pounders & Charges 15£ ℔ Pss. for them; he says you spoke for four compleat seamen, which he will send at 18^{d} ℔ Day. I admire Cap^{t} Clark is not returned to his Duty.—

Now I have answer'd your Let^{r} I am to acquaint you I have recruited 44 Men sent to Alexandria, & this Week sent in two Sloops to Fredericksburg 150 & in a short Time I hope to send the like Number as I have officers in different Places recruiting, & wou'd gladly hope to make the Number from this Dominion from 800 to 1000—I much want to know what Pensylvania Assembly have done, if they raise Money we may depend on a Supply of Provisions from that Colony—Your Calculation of Provisions for 3000 Men I think just; but how to supply the Salt & Cask I know not; for the carrying these two Articles to Wills's Creek will be near three Times the first Cost. I can purchase Barrell'd Pork & Beef, but the same extraordinary Carriage will attend them; Pray write me your answer & Thoughts thereon; & please forward the enclosed by the most speedy Conveyance it's in regard to the Treaty, that if M^{r} De Lancey shall think proper to send a black Belt to the Six Nations, that he wou'd send one for this Dom^{n}—

Pray order two or three officers to Winchester to receive the recruits, as there will not be sufficient with them to keep them in proper order. I have been very much fatigued since parting, & likely to continue, but if its now the Affair in View I shou'd be very well pleased—I shall order the Prisoners to Belhaven, & give the officer the Liberty of walking the Town.—

My Wife & Girls join me in kind respects & I am with great Truth

Your Excell^{ys}
Most hble & obed^{t} Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

P. S. The two Pair of Wheels are almost finished that you ordered to be made if wanted let me me know & they shall be sent.

Letter Bk. I. p. 99

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

19 December [1754] transmitted by Mr Chamier

Sir

When I writ yesterday sen'night I was in Expectation that ee'r this I should have been advised of the Issue of the Pensilvania Assembly's Meeting & have known what would have been the Event of our Meeting also but to my surprize I have not yet heard any thing from Phila[a] tho their Assembly have been met ever since the 3[d] Inst. & I desired Governor Morris to acquaint me by Express as soon as they should have come to any Resolution, & I am sorry to acquaint you that my Fears are encreased since I then writ that we shall be forced to seperate again before the Business that I have recommended to our Assembly be done. Their Address which you have inclosed gave me indeed great hopes that their Resolutions at this time would redound to the honour of his Ldp & themselves but when they came to the point & the Question was put they could agree to grant £7000 only, & to raise that they are I find inclined or rather determined to bring in a Bill for striking more Paper Money upon what Scheme I do not as yet well know, but if they should persist in such a Design I shall take the Liberty to adjourn them for a week or two & see what Effect that will have, for I am persuaded it is almost the universal Desire of the people that some Money should be given on this Occasion. I defer writing to The Ministry till I can learn something certainly from Gover[r] Morris & represent the Conduct of our Assembly I hope in a more favourable light the same Unwillingness to trouble His Ldp with what I know will give him Uneasiness will make my Excuse I hope for delaying to address myself to his Ldp till a more agreeable Occasion.

Letter Bk. II. p. 42

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Annapolis Decem[r] 26. 1754.

S[r].

I embrace the Opportunity of M[r] Wolstenholme's journying to Williamsburg to acknowledge the Receipt of y[r] Letter dated the 17[th] Inst. I am pleased to find that we are likely to have people who understand & will carefully perform the Business of Commissary. One of them I hope has already received Orders to give his Attendance at the Camp & after the requisite Quantum of Provisions is laid in or contracted for you will be pleased to order the other or as Clerk to repair thither also, for I must have one of the Commissaries to attend the Troops when they come to move. I should be glad the Commissaries would return you & me as soon as possible a Copy

of the Scheme they have projected to supply & carry out pro- Letter Bk. II.
visions for the Troops that we may see what we have to expect
or depend on. Upon reconsidering the method I proposed for
the Carriage of the provisions & the Calculations that I
inclosed to you in my last, I think the Expence might be greatly
diminished by having some of the Meat dryed & the rest
packed in Casks containing only 100 lbs of Salted Meat which
will be portable on Horses which can carry 200 lb each beside
their provender. the Difficulty we should be under of getting
or hiring a sufficient number of waggons I think recommends
this method & the Consideration of the Accidents that Car-
riages are subject to, & that Horses can more easily avoid any p. 43
party of the Enemy that might happen to be sent to intercept
them than waggons which cannot divert from the beaten Track
tho they should receive Intelligence of the Enemy's Approach
still makes this method I think more Eligible, however I leave
that to the Commissaries whose Care it will be to calculate the
Expences of every Method & pursue that which appears most
frugal. The Salt you mention was sent from Rock Creek last
week & I suppose that as soon as proper Receptacles can be
prepared the Cattle that are to be slaughtered this winter
should be driven to the Camp & there killed & cured, how the
Skins & Tallow is to be disposed of you do not mention but I
doubt not you will give Instructions to the Commissaries as to
that matter. Tho the Country people should be prevailed on
to stall feed their Cattle this winter & engage to drive a con-
siderable number out to the Troops in the Summer as they
shall be wanted, yet I think enough Salt provision to serve the
Troops 5 or 6 months is the least that ought to be now laid in,
& the Troops after they leave Wills-Creek must never be with-
out enough to serve them at least 3 Weeks or a Month. the
Casks may be returned to the Magazine as they are emptied
& will serve to inclose such Meat as may be pickled in
Troughs there but the Consideration & management of that I
leave entirely to the Commissaries. I should be glad to have
your answer concerning what is to be done with respect to that
Johnson mentioned in my last & his Beeves, whether you will
order them to be received of him or whether I shall have it p. 44
signified to him that He must seek out another market.
Cresap acquaints me that He has purchased 29138 lb of pork
& 13197 lb of Beef already cured & in Barrel at his house
more than will supply our Company for 12 Months, this &
64 Beeves still alive he ventured to purchase as I mentioned
before on a Supposition that there might be some Difficulty to
procure & lay up a sufficient Quantity for the Troops at this late
Season & imagining it would be very acceptable to whoever
should be appointed to act as Commissary to have such a

Letter Bk. II. quantity on the Spot as cheap or cheaper I believe than it can now be procured elsewhere; whether you will choose to have it taken of him by the Commissaries is entirely at your Option I shall only desire him to Stall-feed during the winter as many of the Beeves as I gave him Orders to detain & if the others are not wanted give him notice that He might dispose of them elsewhere. He had also laid in about 8000 lb flour more than the Quantum for the Maryland Company which I apprehend has been nearly consumed by the Independants who have not been able to get any sent them but from that Store for a considerable time. I have only agreed for 6 Waggons with four Horses & Harness to each to be delivered all of them for £280, & each of them will come loaded to the Camp with 20 C^{t} of flour, at the price of 12/ Currency ꝑ C^{t} these according to the Directions I gave at the Camp were to be employed two
p. 45 of them there in drawing Timber for the Fort or otherwise as should be found expedient, & the other four to be employed in carrying up to Conegogeek the Stores that now are or may be landed at Rock-Creek, but I will contradict the Orders I left, that they may be employed between Winchester & Wills-Creek since you prefer that Rout, tho from the Observations that I had an Opportunity of making by journying to the Camp one way & returning the other I am satisfied that you will find the Carriage thro Winchester much more expensive than on the North shore of Potowmack, especially if you take into the Account the Charge of building such a number of Boats & of opening such a Road as you propose to shorten the Distance by the way of Winchester, I have got one more Waggon made which as soon as I can procure Horses for it shall be sent up; but as it is a very difficult thing to procure Horses from any place nearer than Lancaster in Pensilvania & I have no Acquaintance near that part of the Country whom I could desire to make purchases for me, I will leave that Business entirely to the Commissaries who may perhaps have Opportunities of making advantageous Bargains, as they will be conversant among people who are likely to have some to dispose of. I have inclosed you a Letter from M^{r} Carlile with an Account of all the money that he supposes due from the Government of Virginia on Account of the Troops, but I know that Col^{o} Innes if you please to write to him on that head can return you a List of many people's names which are not there inserted who have Claims on the Virginia Govern^{t} You will be pleased to observe in my last that for want of Salt at the Camp the Herdsmen had been hired long before I went up, & that I
p. 46 only advanced them some money in part of their Account lest they should desert the Cattle before they could be killed which they seemed disposed to do. The whole £45. that Gist had

received for Montour was spent (as I observed to you before) Letter Bk. II.
e'er he reached the Camp which necessitated me to advance
him so much. I did not know that what you mention was the
Intent of giving Montour a Commission & indeed I question
whether the Man did not misapprehend the purport of it him-
self, otherwise I think he would not have proceeded to raise
any Men for the Service, which that He did M^r^ Washington
can inform you whose Orders Montour & his Company were
attendant on at the time of the Engagement, for this Reason
I hope you will not be averse to considering the Man & satisfying
the Expences he has been at in supporting his Company, not-
withstanding his doing it was not ordered by you but was
owing to some Mistake or Misapprehension of his own, for
my own part I cannot help thinking him as I before hinted a
well-meaning well-disposed Man & of all the Traders Interpre-
ters or Woodsmen without Comparison the most promising &
honest. I should be obliged to you for acquainting me with
your Determination with respect to him that I might acquaint
him on what footing He stands & what he is to expect. the
Opinion I have already conceived of the Woodsmen & Traders
is very similar to that you entertain of them & I assure you I
shall be very cautious whom I admit of them into the Com-
pany of Rangers that I spoke of. I am sorry to acquaint you
that I have received the Intelligence I before advised you of
concerning the Reinforcement arrived at Fort du Quisne from
Gov^r^ Morris, but I have writ to Governor Delancey (inclosing p. 47
your Letter) requesting him to inform me if he has learnt any
thing of such a number of the Enemy having been in Motion.
Our Assembly are at present returned home without having
done any thing besides making a Vagrant Act similar to that
lately enacted in Virginia, they will meet again the 15^th^ of
January very soon after which time whatever be the Issue of
their Meeting you may expect to hear from me at the Camp &
in the mean time I hope there will be no urgent Occasion for
my presence. Capt. Clark is now gone to his Company & I
have ordered Col^o^ Steven to collect all the Recruits to Belhaven
& prepare for leaving that place having as yet commissioned
no Officers myself but those belonging to our Company
& there being but few at Belhaven I could not send any to
Winchester but have ordered Col^o^ Steven to bring them from
Fredericksburg & take them under his Care. You will let me
know what new Officers you intend to appoint, the Old Com-
panies I think should be first compleated & the new Ones to
be then raised & formed w^th^ the same number, each Company
to consist of a Captain 3 Lieutenants or 2 Lieutenants & an
Ensign. 4 Sergeants 4 Corporals 2 Drummers & 100 private
Men. As I know not what Messages have been already sent

Letter Bk. II. to the Twightwees or what it will be proper to say to them in Consequence of your former Treaties with or Overtures to
p. 48 them, I must request you to answer me particularly as to that point & that you will send me a proper Belt to be carried with my Message. What made me apprehend that the Guns sent to Belhaven were only four pounders was M^r^ Lewis's misrepresenting to me their Dimensions & the Diameter of their Chase which he told me he had measured but I have received a Letter from him since advising me that on his reviewing & reexamining them at his Return in Compliance with my Directions he found he had not been sufficiently accurate in his first Measurement & that he had upon discovering his Error writ to you to acquaint you that he found the Diameters of the Bore of those pieces to be 3 Inches & $\frac{7}{10}$ & to desire you to order Ball to be made of the same Diameter, in that however he has again erred for the Diameter of the Ball ought to be always 2 Lines at least less than that of the Guns Chase so that instead of having the Ball made 3.7^Inches^ you will please to order them to be only 3.5^Inches.^ Be pleased to present my Compliments to Capt. Arbuthnot & acquaint him with the Cause of my Suspicion & that if you approve thereof I will be obliged to him for his Men at that Rate. I should be glad you would get some Shot made for that small Brass-Gun at York & send them up together with the Gun & those Wheels from Williamsburg by the first Opportunity. it was reported with us that 2000 Men were expected over immediately from Europe which I should have been glad to have seen confirmed, if you Preceive any farther Advice concerning what Assistance we are to expect from home you will not delay to acquaint me therewith.

I am &^c^

p. 49 [Sharpe to Morris.]

Annapolis, December 27. 1754

Sr.

Your favour of the 3^d^ I have had the pleasure to receive since my Return to Annapolis & most heartily wish the hopes you entertain of your Assembly's Disposition may be fully answered tho my not having yet received a Line of Advice makes me a little doubtful of your Success. You will be pleased to think that your kind mention of Capt. Rutherford has confirmed the Opinion I had before entertained of him & that he shall not want my Regard & particular Notice. Your Care in communicating to me so speedily the Intelligence you had received of the Arrival of such a Reinforcement at Monongahela much obliges me, I have also received the same Account from Col^o^

Innes of which I acquainted you by the last post. As the Conduct Letter Bk. II.
& Behaviour of that Mr Croghan (a Copy of whose Letter you inclosed me) was represented to me in no very favourable or amiable light I cannot help taking the Liberty to mention some things that have been said of him & to desire you unless you are satisfied of the falsity of them to have him a little observed, it has been asserted that He is a Roman Catholick & that one Campbell a person of the same persuasion generally resides at his House, that several Circumstances afford Room to suspect that this Campbell paid a Visit sometime since to the French Fort, but indeed I should not have given much Credit to such a Story as this without it had been supported by stronger proofs than were offered to me had not the Behaviour of Mr Croghan in opening a Letter of the greatest Consequence sometime since from Mr Stobo which was not directed to him & taking p. 50
as is asserted a Copy thereof did not make me a little suspicious of his Integrity & fidelity. in Excuse of this Step of his I am told He urges the importunity of the Indians who were with him & pressed him to let them know what Advice the Letter contained: if that was the Case He ought by no means to have taken such measures to satisfy their Curiosity but I cannot learn that they even made him a Request of that Sort or were very desirous of knowing the Contents of the Letter: it has been also reported that Mr Croghan had Remittances made him to pay the Indian who brought him the Letter very hansomely but that he retained the Money & delivered only a small parcel of Goods far inferiour to it in Value. Information was also given me that by forging & telling them false Stories he diverted a number of Indians from coming to the Camp at Wills Creek some time ago in order to serve thereby some private Ends of his own if his Behaviour has deservedly subjected him to such Censures you will I doubt not be able to make some Discovery & deal with him as he might deserve. One Gerrard Pendigrass an Indian Trader on Juniata has been represented to me as a person well acquainted with the Back Country, if you will order him to be enquired out & endeavour to learn what Character he bears & if he is willing to attend the Troops as a Guide on Occasion You will much oblige &c.

[Sharpe to De Lancey.]

Annapolis Decem. 27. 1754

Sir

I am informed that the Inhabitants or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Albany have lately made a League of Friendship for themselves & the Govt of New York with the Canuaga p. 51

Letter Bk. II. Indians upon which a considerable Number of those People imagining that their wives & families whom they have left behind will be secure under that League of Peace & Amity from the Resentment of the English on that Quarter are come down to the French on Monongahela to put themselves under the Direction of the Commandant of that Fort. We are told also that since the Conclusion of that Treaty the Canuagaes have acted as Messengers & Mediators between the Governor of Canada & the Six Nations & have prevailed with the latter to go to Quebec & enter into an Alliance with the Inhabitants of Canada where they at this time are. Of the Event of such an Interview if it be really held at Quebec you will be pleased as soon as you learn yourself to inform me, & if the Consequences of that seperate Treaty with the Canuagaes at Albany have been such as they are represented here you will I hope forbid any League to be made for the future unless all the Colonies be included as they were in the Treaty held with the six Nations in July. Gov^{r} Dinwiddie has desired me to send you the inclosed Letter which He tells me requests you to use your Interest with the Indian Tribes & engage them if possible to declare in our favour, if that can be effected & you think proper to send them a black Belt as from Virginia you will be pleased to send them another in behalf of this Province. About a week since I received Advice that a Reinforcement of 1100 French & 70 Aruadacks were arrived at the French Fort & that 400 more were at the head of the Ohio coming down to join them. if you have received any Intelligence from Oswego or elsewhere of the March of such numbers you will be kind enough to acquaint me & as we shall in case we proceed to act offensively next Spring stand in great need of a Mortar or two & some Bomb Shells neither of which
p. 52 can be procured in either of these Colonies I hope you will not be averse to sparing us a small Supply of both from your Magazines & any small Cannon that you cannot have immediate use for, till we can get a sufficient Number of each sent us from England, your Compliance with this my Request will Exceedingly oblige &c.

Original. [Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Virginia Williamsburg Jan^{y} 2^{d} 1755

Sir

I have waited with Impatience to hear what your Assembly & that of Pensylvania have done, in regard to their granting supplies for the Expedition. By a Ship from London I understand His Majesty & the Ministry are very Sanguine in granting proper supplies of Men & ordnance Stores, The Trans-

ports were to sail from Gravesend to Ireland the first of November, to bring over two Regiments; & that M^r^ Shirley & S^r^ W^m^ Pepperell were to raise two Regiments in New England the officers all nominated for these Regiments, which I presume is to make a Diversion against the French to the Northward. The Forces from Ireland may be expected here the End of this Month, or early in Feb^y^

The providing Provisions is what I have greatly in my Thoughts. I have sent the Comissaries to the Camp with Money to purchase Flour & Pork in the frontier Counties; & I am endeavouring to purchase a Quantity of Pork here to be sent to the Camp. I have found here two Mortars & forty shells fit for Service, with the two pair of Wheels you desired to be made. I desire your Advice whether to order them to Fredericksburg, Alexandria, or to Rock Creek; if to the last Place, pray write me the Person's Name I am to recomended them to be forwarded by, and if you think that the best Conveyance. I must send the barrel'd Pork to that Place. I shall earnestly endeavour to provide a large Quantity. I have had pretty good Success in recruiting, I believe our Forces from this Government are now about 500, & hope by the Middle of next Month to make them at least 800, the Charges of recruiting run very high. Pray have you ordered the Purchase of Twenty Waggons & Horses? let me know if I shall send you Bills of Exch^a^ to pay for them. You desired the Guns from Cap^t^ Arburthnott to be charged to you, & the Hh^d^ of Rum, they are sent up to Alexandria & enclosed you have the Account thereof, if you desire me to pay it, it shall be done. As you wrote me you intended to order the Forces at Alexa^a^ to march to the Camp, I have sent Money to pay them to the last of Dec^r^ & have desired them to march immediately if they have your orders so to do, it's a Pity they have been so long idle as they might have been serviceable at the Camp. There are 200 at Fredericksburg, which have ordered to Winchester to join those from Alexandria & there will be Provisions for them there. And I ordered the Comissaries to endeavour to purchase four Waggons, if possible to reduce the monstrous hire of Waggons, in which Article we have been greatly impos'd on, by an extravegant Charge. Pray write me when you intend for the Camp. I have been endeavouring to procure Carpenters & Coopers, but as yet have had no Success. I I sent to Fredericksburg two Smiths with Bellows, Anvil & Tools, with orders to proceed directly for Wills's Creek—As I expect a Supply of ordnance Stores, I suspend purchasing any for the present. Let me know what is immediately wanted that I can purchase here.

The Assembly of N^o^ Carolina is now sitting, but what they

have done I know not. I wrote to all my Friends at Home the Necessity of a Supply from the Parliament, which I have some reasons to expect—

I heartily wish You Health & Success in conducting the Expedit^{n} & I remain with very great regard & Esteem—

Your Excellency's
most obed^{t} hble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

P. S. I presume you will engage Men to drive the Waggons by the year—

Letter Bk. II. p. 52

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Annapolis January 8th 1755

Sir

I had prorogued our Assembly to the 20th of Feb^{y} & proposed to spend the intervening time at the Camp to which place I was preparing to go but shall now decline it till I receive your Answer I apprehend you must on the Receipt of those pacquets from England meet the Assembly of that province, of the time you propose you will be pleased to acquaint me & if you think it necessary & expedient I will set off immediately for the Camp but if you think it adviseable I will postpone my Journey thither & issue proclamation for our Assembly to meet as soon as possible after I am favoured with your Answer. I am &

[Sharpe to Gov. Fitch.]

Annapolis January 10. 1755

Sir

The Letter you favoured me with the 30th of Nov^{r} I have but lately received & as I am since informed by a Letter from one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State dated at Whitehall the 26th of October that He had by his Majesty's Order sent Letters of the same Date & Tenor to all His Majestys Governors on the Continent directing them how to proceed & what Steps to take for the Defence of His Majestys Dominions at this Critical Juncture & also advising them that His Majesty had been pleased to order 2 Regiments over from home & 2 more to be raised in the northern Colonies & that a General Officer might be soon expected here to take the Command of all these Forces, I conceive you do not now expect an Answer
p. 53 to the several particular Questions you were pleased to propose to me but that you will find yourself sufficiently instructed by the Secretary of State His Letter & that in Compliance therewith you will endeavour to procure from your Assembly as large Supplies as possible in which Endeavours I heartily wish you Success & am &c.

[Sir John St. Clair to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsbourg Jan. 11th 1755

Sir,

I herewith transmit to you two Letters from the Secretary of State relating to the present circumstances of Affairs in America.

As His Majesty has appointed me Deputy Quarter Master General to the Troops to be sent forthwith to Virginia, and those to be leavied in the different Provinces; I have taken the first opportunity of acquainting you with my Arrival in Virginia, in order to make the necessary preparations for the reception of the two Regiments which were to embark at Cork a few Days after my departure from England, and which we may reasonably expect will arrive in a very short time.

I shall be glad to know the particulars with regard to what may have lately happend in the Province you command, that I may regulate myself accordingly, and have them ready to lay before General Braddock on his landing that no time may be lost.

As I am an intire stranger to the Ground in America, it is highly necessary I shou'd get the best information of its situation that I can, which I have no other way of doing, but requesting of you to send me any Maps or Drawings you may have of your Province, which I shall return to you after they are copied; or if you have any knowledge of the ground at the back of our Settlements it will be of use likewise for me to have it.

These are things that General Braddock will expect that I shoud have, that he may be exactly informed of the distances of Places, for regulating the marches of the Troops (if necessity requires it) thro' the different Provinces.

Being ordered by His Majesty to correspond with you, I am glad of this opportunity of expressing the Respect with which I am

Sir
Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
John St Clair

P. S. It will be of the greatest consequence to have the proportion of men from your Province in readiness for completing the two Regiments from 500 Men to 700

To His Excellv Horatio Sharp Esqr Govr
of Maryland.

Original. [St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Williamsbourg Jan: the 12th 1755

Sir

I shou'd have thought myself extremely happy if I had any prospect of finding you at Willis's Creek, for which place I propose setting out from hence by the middle of the week, in order to set people to work for erecting Log houses for the quartering of the two Regiments which are daily expected. As I have no other Method to acomplish that most essential part of my Instructions but by employing a number of Men at that place who are under your Command; I must request of you (that no stop may be put to our Expedition) that you will send me a Letter to Willis's Creek for the then Commanding officer to give me any Number of Men wanted for that Service, that the Troops may not be obliged to continue on board of their Transports at Alexandria longer than needs must.

After the Work is began and in a fair way of going on, I propose returning hither to receive General Braddocks Commands and to see things ready for the Reception of the Sick. I am with the greatest Regard & Respect

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
John St Clair.

To His Excelly Horatio Sharp Esqr Govr of Maryland.

Letter Bk. I. p. 99 [Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Jany 12. 1755. transmitted by Capt. Allen.

My Ld.

I am sorry to be obliged to acquaint Your Ldp that the Apprehensions which I expressed in my last Letters to Mr
p. 100 Calvert have proved but too well grounded as the Iournals of both Houses Proceedings last Session will discover to your Ldp: A Bill was indeed brought in for granting the Sum of £7000 but as a Clause in it ordered an Addition of £4000 to be made to the paper Cash already in Circulation & another Clause extended the Continuance of the Act concerning Ordinaries for the payment of part of this £7000 the Bill was stopped in the Upper House, & as it was evident to us that nothing could be expected from the Lower House after that Bill was returned them & that they would make no Concessions I thought myself under a necessity of complying with their desire to be prorogued & have with the Advice of your Ldps Council protracted the time of their prorogation to the

20th of next Month by which time I expect to be honoured Letter Bk. I.
with your Ldps farther Instructions & to receive more particular Directions for my Conduct from His Majesty, if not, I shall meet the Assembly at the time appointed & despair not of seeing them convinced of the Danger & Injury that another Emission of Paper would threaten to the province & of finding them disposed to grant Supplies in a more acceptable manner, tho indeed I am somewhat doubtful that the continued Obstinacy of the Pensilvania Assembly may have some influence on their Conduct. I have taken the Liberty to inclose for your Ldp the last Pensilvania Gazetts by which your Ldp will see what Disputes subsist between Mr Morris & the Assembly of that province which cannot be determined or appeased without His Majesty will be pleased to interpose. I have just received a Letter from Governor Morris in which He acquaints me that an Act passed at the last Session of the Lower County Assembly held at Newcastle granting £1000 for the Kings use to be disposed of as Govr Morris & the Speaker of that Assembly shall see expedient; he also intimates to me that he entirely despairs of bringing Matters with the Pensilvania Assembly to any favourable Issue but that He is told that they have voted £5000 (a sum inadequate to the Riches of that province) for Provisions & Carriages which money is to be put into the hands of five of their own Members. I also send your Ldp a Copy of the Deposition mentioned in one of Governor Morris's Messages which he tells me he has transmitted to the Secretary of State: it is probable that the Account therein given of the Numbers of the French may be exaggerated but is very certain that their Force p. 101
at the Ohio is considerably increased & that 200 of the Ottaway & Canuaga Indians who are entirely at the Devotion of the French were also on their way thither so that the strength of the Enemy on that River cannot by any Accounts be supposed to be less than 1000 at this time.

A few Days since was forwarded to me from Boston where a Man of War is arrived from England, a Letter from Sr Thos Robinson dated at Whitehall 26th of Octor at which time my Letter says one to the same purport was dispatched from the Secretary of State his Office to every Governor on the Continent. It is thereby signified to me that His Majesty for the Defence of his just Rights & Dominions in those parts has been pleased to order over to Virginia two Regiments of Foot consisting of 500 Men each beside Commissioned & Non-Commissioned Officers to be augmented by us to 700 Men each; & likewise to send Orders to Governor Shirley & Sr Wm Pepperel Colonels to raise two Regiments of 1000 Men each & "whereas (says the Letter) there will be wanting a

Letter Bk. I. considerable number of Men to make up the designed Complements of the said four Regiments it is His Majesty's pleasure that you should be taking the previous Steps towards contributing as far as you can to have about 3000 Men in readiness to be enlisted, & it is his Majesty's Intention that a Genl. Officer of Rank & Capacity to be appointed to command in Chief all the Kings Forces in North America a Deputy Quarter Master General & a Commissary of the Musters shall sett out as soon as conveniently may be in Order to prepare every thing for the Arrival of the Forces above mentioned from Europe for the raising of the others in America" the Letter then proceeds in general terms to excite us to raise such Supplies as the present Danger requires particularly with regard to the following points that we should carefully provide a sufficient Quantity of fresh victuals at the Expence of this Gov^t^ to be ready for the use of these Troops at their Arrival & to provide Carriages for carrying the Baggage of such Forces as shall arrive or be raised within this Govern^t^ & with Regard to such other Articles as are of a more general Concern S^r^ Tho^s^ Robinson's Letter acquaints us that it is the King's pleasure that the same should be supplied by a Common Fund to be established for the Benefit of all the Colonies collectively in N. America; for which purpose you will use
p. 102 your utmost Endeavours says he to induce the Assembly of your Province to raise forthwith as large a Sum as can be afforded as their Contribution to this Common Fund to be employed provissionally for the general Service of N America (particularly for paying the Charge of Levying the Troops to make up the Complements of the Regiments above mentioned) untill such time as a Plan of a general union of his Majestys Northern Colonies for their common Defence can be perfected, this is the Substance of the Secretary of State his Letter; on my Receipt of which I desired the Advice of your Ldp's Council whether to issue Proclamation for the Assembly to meet before the Day appointed to consider of granting requisite Supplies & paying Obedience to the Royal pleasure or whether it would be more proper for me to proceed as I had intended to the Camp where my presence seems quite necessary to have the American Troops a little disciplined & to see provisions laid in & proper preparations made for the Reception of those Regiments from England as well as those Companies that are raising in Virginia & this Province. At present there are at the Camp the 3 Independant Companies & the Maryland Company compleated to 110. the Virginians who are at present dispersed & quartered in several parts of that province have Orders to begin their March thither in Divisions to Morrow, their Number Gov. Dinwiddie informs me when they come

to join will be about 500, which Number he proposed to increase Letter Bk. I.
to 700 or 800 but I know not whether this last Letter from
home will not make him decline it as there are thereby no
Directions given how they are to be formed, or on what footing
or Establishment they are to be raised, this Doubt & ignorance
makes us wait with impatience the Arrival of those Regiments
& farther & particular Instructions from His Majesty: as to
levying any number of Men I conceive we shall not find it
difficult especially as the Assemblies of this Province & Vir-
ginia have passed a Sort of Press Act, but the Difficulty will
be to get money from the Assemblies to support them after
they are raised; indeed this I look upon as impracticable or
not to be expected without the Legislature of Great Britain
shall make a Law to be binding on all these several Colonies
& oblige them to raise such a Fund, as may be thought expe-
dient for the Support of their own Troops. This is all the Intelli- p. 103
gence I can send your Ldp as to these publick Transactions &
the present posture of Affairs beside an Account of the Assem-
blies of New York & the Jersies having refused to grant any
Supplies unless their respective Gov^rs^ will consent to a new
Emission of Paper Money which it seems they are both by His
Majesty's Instructions positively forbid to do without a sus-
pending Clause till His Majesty's Approbation can be signified.
As to your Ldp's private Interest I am greatly concerned at
being obliged to acquaint your Ldp that it will be I am afraid
considerably affected by these Disturbances & the Danger
that appears to threaten Us, to advance the price of any of
your Ldp's Land that remains unsold will I doubt be rendered
impracticable & the Vicinity of the Enemy to the frontier
Counties where most of the Vacant Land lies has already very
sensibly lessened the number of Applications to your Ldp's
Land Office; but I have the pleasure to acquaint your Ldp
that I have a prospect of being able to advance the Rent
of your Ldp's mannour in this County from £3. 15 to £5. p
100 Acres as the Leases under which the Tenants at present
occupy terminate. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Ian^y^ 12. 1755.

Sir

I am not a little sorry at being obliged to acquaint you that
I have found the Apprehensions I intimated to you in my two
last Letters but too well founded, as you will learn from the
perusal of the Journals of the Upper & Lower Houses pro-
ceedings last Session which I take this Opportunity of trans-
mitting. I am persuaded that when the Vote for granting the

Letter Bk. I. Sum of £7000 for His Majesty's Service was passed the Majority of the Representatives fully intended to give that Sum after an acceptable manner, but when some of the Politicians who out of their singular regard for the Pocketts of their Constituents & perhaps their own Interest discovered to the House that instead of £90000 of the paper Cash which should have been brought into the Office some years since & exchanged for New Bills, only £85,984. 14. was brought thither, consequently that the Difference between those two Sums
p. 104 remained still in the Office persuaded the Rest of the House at least the Majority of them that the Sum of £4015. 6 must be supposed to be sunk or annihilated by peoples wast of the Bills or by fire or other Accidents, therefore that tho what was laid into the Office to exchange these old Bills had they been brought in at the time appointed should be now put in Circulation yet it would not affect the Value of our Currency as there would be in reality no more even then issued than was ordered & directed by the paper Currency Act. thus these patriots argued on the fallacious principle & Supposition of that Sums being vanished & annihilated when every person who pays or receives any considerable Sums of paper Money knows & sees that that Money, at least a great Deal of it is still in Circulation & the true Reason of its being not payed in at the Office & exchanged for Bills on the Fund in England & new Paper, was its being possessed by many people in such small parcells that it was not worth their while to journey with it to the Office some no doubt might be wasted but nothing like the quantity they would have presumed; beside had we concurred with the Lower House in permitting the Emission of this £4000 upon the next Demand on them for Money they would it is probable have been for another Coinage, the ill Consequences of which are too obvious for me to mention, especially if the Law to support it should be made to respect at all the Fund on which the Credit of our present Currency depends. Another Objection too to the Bill was its protracting the time of the late Law regarding Ordinary & Pedlars Lycences which I cannot bear to think of till I shall be favoured with His Ldp's or your full Instructions as to those Articles. I find that from the Jersey Govern^{t} there already is a Law & that it is expected that from the other Northern Govern^{ts} there will be Laws or Addresses sent home for striking Bills of Credit; in Case these Requests should be heard at home I must beg you to give me particular Directions for my Conduct as I think it is more than probable that our people will be disposed to fall on the same Scheme I have acquainted his Ldp
p. 105 with my having extended the time of the Assemblys prorogation to the 20th of next Month soon after which protraction I

received a Letter from the Secretary of State, the Contents of Letter Bk. I.
which I have taken the Liberty to communicate to his Ldp, &
as it urged me to call the Assembly of this province & procure
Supplies I consulted the Council thereon who advised me not
to meet the Assembly before the time that had been appointed,
as so much time must have been necessarily spent before the
proclamations could be published that the Assembly could not
have met in obedience to them a great many Days before the
time before mentioned. As I conceive you are no stranger to
the several particulars mentioned in S^r^ Tho^s^ Robinson's Letter
respecting the Transportation of Forces hither & who are
appointed to commend, & as I have quoted a great part of the
Letter to His Ldp I will not intrude on your time by my
prolixity on that head farther than to acquaint you that by the
inclosed I acknowledge the Receipt of that Letter, promise to
obey his Majesty's Commands & tell him that I am about to
depart again to the Camp where Ours & the Independant
Companies are & whither I have ordered the Virginia Troops
to march that I may endeavour to bring them under some
Dicipline to which they are as yet pretty much Strangers; &
make some preparations for the Reception of those Regiments
from Europe of whose Arrival we now daily expect to be
informed. I have also inclosed for your perusal & mentioned
them to his Ldp the last Pensilvania Gazetts which are almost
entirely filled with Messages that have passed between Gov^r^
Morris & the Assembly of that province who are still sitting
but are not now expected as Governor Morris informs me to
grant any Supplies at this time more than £5000 for purchasing
provisions & Carriages for the use of the Troops who may
have Occasion to march thro. that province. None of the
Northern Colonies beside New York who gave £5000 some
time since have been prevailed on to grant any Supplies as yet
unless the Jersies can be said to have done so who have given
about £6000 St^g^ by an Act which it is expected will be dis-
sented to at home. I have writ to His Ldp acquainting him
with the evident Backwardness of the people to apply for Land
to His Ldps Office since these Disturbances have happened
which indeed makes me dispair of being able to advance at
present the price of His Ldp's Lands in the province & I am
apt to think that it will be no easy matter tho we should suc- p. 106
ceed against the Enemy, as no doubt Numbers from these
provinces will then flock out to settle on Lands which they will
have on easy Terms & which by the Description given of
them are realy extremely rich & fertil. however I take pleasure
in acquainting you that I have a prospect of being able to
advance the Rent of Arundel Mannour (many Leases on
which are now expiring) from £3. 15 to £5. p 100 Acres. but

Letter Bk. I. I believe we must include a little of the Reserve in each of the Leases as they come to be renewed. I have also inclosed as I promised An Account of the Importations to this province in the 1753. which however is very defective & indeed cannot be otherwise, as the Quantity & Quality of the European Goods imported is & must be unknown so that no Estimate can be made of their Value which it must however be concluded is exceedingly great as otherwise we cannot conceive what becomes of our money while it appears by Exchange with England being rather above par that we are not increasing our Riches. The Consumation of Rum you will think I doubt not very extravagant & indeed I wish some method could be fallen on to prevent it which must be by an Excise Law otherwise the pensilvanians would clandastinely bring in greater Quantities than at present tho I believe they already make a vast Addition to the Quantity that I have in the Estimate noticed as legally imported. I am &c.

Letter Bk. II. p. 54

[Sharpe to Sir Thos. Robinson.]

Annapolis Ianuary 12. 1755.

Right Honourable

In Obedience to His Majesty's pleasure which you had done me the honour to signify to me, very soon after my Return from Virginia I proceeded to the place called Wills Creek where Governor Dinwiddie had ordered the three Independant Companies with that of Maryland to Encamp. at my Arrival there I learnt that the French on the Ohio had been Reinforced by some Regular Troops from Canada & by a considerable number of the Arundack, Ottoway & Canuaga Indians which Tribes are & have been many years attached to & entirely devoted to the French Interest. The Confirmation of this Intelligence & Account, the Inconsiderable Number of the Troops that we had at that time been able to Levy & the surprizing Backwardness of the people to enter into the Service soon convinced me of the Vanity of the hopes I had entertained of being enabled to attempt something successfully this winter, wherefore I tarried there only about a fortnight while the Men were employed in finishing some Barracks which they had before my Arrival begun, & I gave Orders as the weather should permit to build some Store Houses for the Reception & preservation of such provisions as it was necessary & expedient to lay in immediately lest a severe Season should set in & deprive the Troops of all means of getting any kind of Supplies, the Situation of the Camp in a distant & almost
p. 55 uninhabited part of this province being better calculated to

protect the Virginia & Maryland Back Settlements & prevent Letter Bk. II.
the Incursions of any small parties of the Enemy, than to be easily & commodiously supplied at present with provisions.

Upon my Return thence I met the Assembly of this province & pressed them in the most urgent manner to make an addition to the Sum they sometime since granted for the Defence of His Majestys Dominions, but the Conduct of the neighbouring province whose Assembly was then & had been some time sitting influenced but too much I doubt their minds & Behaviour & made them averse (after having made the greatest professions of their being truly sensible of the Danger that threatens them & fully determined to pay the greatest Regard & Obedience to his Majestys pleasure which you had been pleased to signify to them) to granting any farther Supplies, unless by an Addition to the paper Cash already circulating in this Government, to which Scheme as it evidently appeared pregnant with many Evils & much Detriment to the province in general the Upper House of Assembly refused their Concurrence. I have appointed them to meet again the 20th of next Month when I hope they will fall on some unexceptionable method, to raise & give as large a Sum as the Circumstances of the Inhabitants can afford: at least you will be pleased to think I hope that I will leave no Stone unturned to procure from them such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs require & to shew on my part the most dutiful & punctual Obedience to his Majesty's Commands & the Orders & Directions that I have had the honour to receive from yourself & the Ld proprietary. The intervening time I propose to spend at the Camp for which place I intend to depart to morrow; having ordered all the Virginia & our Recruits (who together make about 600) thither that I may endeavour to dicipline them as well as the time will per- p. 56
mit & make proper preparations for the Reception of those Forces which His Majesty has been graciously pleased to order over for the protection of his American Subjects & his Dominions upon this Continent. You will not I hope entertain the least Doubt of my being incessant in my Endeavours to excite & rouse the people of this province to the performance of their Duty to His Majesty & themselves; & I beg leave to assure you that to the utmost of my power I will obey in every Article the Orders you were pleased to give me in your Letter dated the 26th of Oct^{r} which I have just had the Satisfaction to receive if the Troops who have Orders to be transported hither should disembark in or have Occasion to march thro this Govern^{t} I will take Care that they shall want neither Victuals or any accommodations that this Country where the Inhabitants are dispersed & not resident together in Towns or Villages can afford I should not do Captains Fitzhugh & Rosse on half

Letter Bk. II. pay justice if I forgot or neglected to acquaint you that these Gentlemen the one from Virginia the other from the Lower part of this province have offered their Service & propose to go on the Expedition. I yesterday received Advice from the Camp that 15 french Indians of different Tribes came thither lately in an amicable manner & at a Conference which was held with them made great professions of their & their respective Tribes being determined to remain entirely neuter & not to interfere in the Disputes which they observed subsisting between the French & us, but notwithstanding all their Assurances I cannot persuade myself to put any great Confidence in their promises or to entertain any very favourable Opinion of their Sincerity as I am informed that they came immediately from the French Fort. Governor Morris has just acquainted
p. 57 me that he has received Intelligence of the Arrival of a very considerable Body of the Enemy on the Ohio, but as he also informs me that he has already taken several Opportunities of transmitting such an Account to your hand I will not be troublesome by a Repetition, or presume any longer to intrude on your time at present than to profess with what Duty & Respect

I am Right Honble Sir
Your most humb & devoted Servt

[Sharpe to Morris.]

Iany 13th

Sir

I could not help embracing the Opportunity by Capt Rutherford of acknowledging the Receipt of your favour of the 7 Inst. I need not express to you how much I am concerned at the Account you sent me of your Assemblys Obstinacy. I cannot but approve of your sending a Belt to the Six Nations in behalf of this province tho for want of being before acquainted therewith I have writ with Governor Denwiddie to Mr Delancey desiring him to have a Belt delivered as from us In Case he should think proper to send any Message to the Six Nations You will be kind enough to acquaint me at Scarroyada's Return with the Event of his Journey & you will I hope excuse the Brevity of this & attribute it to my being just about to depart for the Camp where I propose to tarry about a Month if nothing extraordinary & unexpected requires my Return to Annapolis.

I am &

P S I should be glad to know how matters are at Vanango.

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] Letter Bk. II. p. 53

Annapolis, Ianuary 13th

Sr

Mr Lloyd the Gentleman who presents you this having acquainted me with his Intention to depart hence for Williamsburg to Morrow I was glad to embrace this Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of your favour of the 2d Inst. I also desired him to trouble himself with a Pacquet directed to Your Honour which I received last Saturday from Governor Morris, as I apprehend He thereby acquaints you with their proceedings & what He expects will be the Issue of his Assemblys meeting I will not trouble you with a Repetition of what He has writ to me. It is very probable that the Gentleman who is appointed to direct the Expedition will apply to you for those Mortars & Shells in case a sufficient Supply be not sent from home & as to those Wheels they will be found useful at the Camp if you will be pleased to send them by any way up thither You will be pleased to pay that Bill of Mr Hunters. I imagine the Guns as well as the Cordage may be found serviceable notwithstanding Ordnance & Military Stores are expected from home, & the Rum I will order to be taken Care of for the use of the Troops as it may be found necessary & if you please I will repay you the Amount of the Bill. The first Division of the Troops at Belhaven have Orders to march to Day for the Camp whither I am now about to proceed myself & propose to tarry there about a Month if no fresh Advices or Instructions require my earlier Return to p. 54
Annapolis As some of the Train will arrive from England you will not want those Men from Captain Arbuthnot of which I presume you will acquaint him. I shall take an Opportunity of writing to you from the Camp & acquainting you how I find things going on there I am &

[Sharpe to Braddock.] p. 58

Williamsburg 9th Feby 1755.

Sir

At the time I was setting out for Wills-Creek a Letter came to hand from Sr Thos Robinson & having in compliance therewith given necessary Directions for procuring a quantity of fresh provision & raising a proportion of Men for compleating the British Regiments I proceeded to the Fort to prepare Materials & build Barracks there for the Reception of the Troops under your Command that as little time might be lost as possible.

Soon after my Arrival I was favoured wth a Letter from Sr

Letter Bk. II. In° S^t^ Clair who arrived there himself two Days after being the 26^th^ Jan^y^ when it was thought unnecessary to put the Gov^t^ to that Expence as the Season w^d^ be sufficiently advanced to admit of an Encampment before the Artillery could be got thither, or provisions & Forrage c^d^ be well laid in. should that place be judged a proper Rendezvous which S^r^ In° is in doubt about & I am of the same Way of thinking.

The next Day S^r^ Iohn examined some Hunters that I had appointed there to go with me & reconnoitre the Highlands between that & the French Fort; amongst whom he found but one person that understood or c^d^ give him any tolerable information about the matter. After this & fixing upon a proper Magazine for powder we set off to explore Potowmack River which proved from the number of shoals & falls to be of no Service in transporting either Artillery or other Baggage
p. 59 in our passage down S^r^ Iohn contracted for all the Forrage Flour & Calavances on the Banks of that River the next thing we went upon was a proper Disposition for Quartering the Troops of all w^ch^ S^r^ Iohn S^t^ Clair having given you a distinct Acc^t^ I shall not trouble you with a Repetition I have inclosed Major Stobo's Acco^t^ of Fort Du Quisne on Monongahela & the Ohio Rivers when prisoner there (he was one of the Hostages delivered to the French after the Action of the Meadows) likewise a Journal Descriptive of some of the French Forts from Fabres a french Deserter, this is the latest & best Acco^t^ that I have been able to get, & the Examination of Cha: Courtenay a Deserter from the French taken upon Oath before the Chief Iustice of Pensilvania.

I have not been able to review the Virginia Regiment as they are not as yet got together, therefore I can make you no other Return at present than of those Troops now at Wills Creek which is herein inclosed, & I am sorry to find myself obliged to declare that the three Independant Companies by no means answer my Expectations, particularly those from New York, that from So Carolina is by much the best notwithstanding their Loss in the Action at the Meadows.

I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you myself & assure you that nothing less than the Meeting of the Assembly should have prevented my Stay here till your Arrival in my way to Maryland I propose reviewing as many of the Vir-
p. 60 ginia Regiment as are at Fredericksburg, & shall form a Company of Carpenters at Alexandria at which place I have ordered them to rendezvous. I am with the greatest Esteem & Respect

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Lower House Journal, 1736–54, p. 43

Boston February 17, 1755

Sir

The Designs of the French (in which they have so far already succeeded) for Invading his Majestys Iust Rights in these Northern parts of America Contrary to the most Solemn Treaties require these Governments as well for their own Safety as in faithfulness to his Majesty without Delay to use all Means in their power to frustrate these perfidious & pernicious practices.

Among other Measures necessary to be taken Especially at this Critical Conjuncture (the present Aspect of affairs threatning a Speedy Rupture) nothing we can do seems Likely to tend more by the Blessing of God to Defeat the Schemes p. 43 of the French to swallow up all his Majestys Dominions on the Continent in America, than that the Governments should agree in the most Effectual Means for Stopping all supplies of Provisions & Warlike Stores from being sent out of any of these Colonies Without the Inclosed Precaution against their being Carried to the French.—

The General Assembly of this Province have passed an order for that End (a Copy of which I now Inclose) and have Desired me to solicit the Govern^{rs} of the Rest of His Majesties Colonies to Join with us in this necessary Expedient for our Common Safety.

Your Honour will observe that the Time for the Continuance of this Prohibition is Restrained to three Months, but if the other Governments should Join with us, I make no Doubt of bringing my Assembly to Extend it further.—

It would give me great pleasure to have Your Honours Concurrence with me in sentiments Concerning what appears to me so Salutary a Measure at this Conjuncture for the General Good of all his Majesty's Colonies in North America

I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

W. Shirley

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Original.

Fredericksbourg Feb^{ry} 22^{d} 1755

Sir

I received your Excellencys Letter of the seventeenth Instant, and was just going to Wills's Creek to execute your commands, when I received the inclosed, which obliges me to return to Williamsburgh; I have taken upon me to move the

Troops from hence to Port Royal in order to make room here for the British Forces./

As the Maryland Forces will be wanted to compleat the English Regiments, I have sent an order by Mr Pitcher to Wills's Creek that the Detachment of Maryland Forces now at that place, may forthwith march to Frederick to join the rest. they will be then at hand to be incorporated with the British Regiments. I have the honour of being with the greatest Respect

Your Excellencys
Most Obedt Humble Servt
John St Clair.

To His Excellcy Govr Sharpe.

[De Lancey to Sharpe.]

New York 24th February 1755

Lower House Journal, 1736–54, p. 44

Sir

On Wednesday last the Assembly of this Province was adjourned to the 2d Tuesday in March after I had given my Assent to three Bills one to regulate the Militia another for Emitting Bills to the sum of £45000, £30000 of which for Fortifications in this City and on the Northern Frontier, the Third is the Act Herewith Inclosed by which you will see that the Governor with the Advice of the Council is Empowered to Restrain the sending Provisions to Cape Breton &c. I hope the other Governments on the Continent will fall into the like Measure, that the Good Intentions of this Law may not be frustrated, for it would be unreasonable and would not answer the purpose that the Trade of One Province should be Restrained while the others are left at Liberty; I hope you will prevail with your Assembly to fall into a Measure so very proper at this Time and that all the Provinces will Concur, that his Majesty's Subjects may no Longer by Supplying the French with Provisions Enable them to Carry on their pernicious Designs. You will observe that the Act is to Continue for four Months, but I think I may Venture to assure you, that if the other Provinces come into the Like Measure, this Assembly will readily Renew the Act as Long as it can be of any Service. I had the pleasure by Last Saturdays Post to hear from Mr Shirley that in Massachusets Bay they had passed a Law for this purpose. I am

£5000 is given for Provisions & other Contingencys in Case his Majesty's Troops Come into this Province

Sr
Your most Obedient &
Most humble Servant
James De Lancey

[Sharpe to Braddock.] Letter Bk. II. p. 60

Annapolis Feb^{y} 27. 1755.

Sir

By Capt. Rosse an Officer on half pay the Gentleman who presents you this I take the Liberty to congratulate you on your safe Arrival in America which I have had the happiness & Satisfaction to be informed of by a Lett^{r} that S^{r} I S^{t} Clair did me the honour to write as soon as he was advised thereof. You will be pleased to think that tis not without great Reluctance I postpone for a few Days journying to Virginia to pay my Respects to you myself in person, but I hope you will excuse such my Tardiness when you learn that the Assembly of this Province are now met in Obedience to a Lett^{r} that S^{r} Tho^{s} Robinson has honoured me wth requiring Aids of this province for His Majestys Service & particularly to provide provisions for the Troops that shall be under your Command in this part of His Majestys Dominions. The necessity that this Lett^{r} laid me under of being present here at this time will I hope apologize for me till I have the pleasure of waiting on you which I promise myself in a very few Days as I have reason to expect that the Gent^{n} will think of Dispatching the Business abovementioned & returning home the beginning of next week at farthest. but as I am in this manner incapacitated to attend you, I have ventured to commit to writing & humbly p. 61 submit to you the Opinion which the situation of the country behind us & the late Transactions of the French has led me to entertain. You will not I am persuaded condemn this Freedom in communicating my Thoughts unasked for as a culpable Forwardness but rather attribute it to my earnest Desire to do every thing that may be agreeable to yourself.—What Intelligence we have lately rec^{d} concerning the French who have been sent to take possession of the Country adjacent to the River Ohio & their present Strength & Numbers in these parts you will know from S^{r} In^{o} S^{t} Clair & Gov^{r} Dinwiddie & I entertain the most sanguine hopes that their numbers there will not be found very formidable, but I am apprehensive that unless the Communication between Canada & the Forts & Settlements th^{t} the French have made to the Southward of Lake Erie can be cut off it will not be an easy matter to secure our possession of them after the Success of your Arms have recovered his Majesty's Dominions on which the French Troops have presumed some time since to encroach. The permission & Lycence that that nation obtained some years ago to build a Fort in the Country of the 6 Indian Nations at Niagara the pass or Streight between the Lakes Erie & Ontario have now given them the Command over those people & an Oppor-

Letter Bk. II. tunity of monopolizing the Trade with the distant nations & has secured to them a short & easy Communication between
p. 62 their northern & Southern Colonies, as they are Masters of Ontario Lake by means of their strong & well garrisoned Fort thereon named Cataracui, & the nature of the adjacent Country renders a Road to Niagara by Land impracticable they have not hitherto given themselves much trouble to render that place more defensible than nature has made it imagining for the two Reasons just mentioned that the English w^d^ never attempt its Conquest however strongly its vast Importance might invite them thereto. At present we have only a Trading-House distinguished sometimes by the Appellation of Oswego Fort on Ontario Lake where perhaps 50 or 60 Men from the N York Independant Companies may now be posted, but by w^t^ I can find the French may make themselves Masters thereof at a very small Expence & without much difficulty just when they please unless some of the Indians should insist on its being a place of neutrality as they did during the last war between the two Crowns, should the Indians appear less desirous of reserving the place to the English at present (which indeed I am somewhat suspicious will be the Case) I apprehend the French will immediately dispossess us thereof as soon as they hear of your Arrival & that they have something to fear on Acco^t^ of their late acquired possessions on the Ohio. This as it seemed to me a matter of Importance I was unwilling to delay communicating till I shall have the pleasure of waiting on you w^ch^ as I am impatient of doing I hope I shall be able to accomplish soon after this shall have reached y^r^ hand in the mean time I beg leave to assure you Sir that I am

p. 63 [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Annapolis feb. 27.

S^r^

I take this Opportunity of acquainting you by Capt Rosse that I was advised Tuesday Even^g^ of Gen^l^ Braddocks Arrival by a Lett from S^r^ In^o^ S^t^ Clair dated at Fredericksburg the 22^d^ Inst. I have now writ to the Gen^l^ excusing myself for not waiting on him at present by reason our Assembly are now sitting they passed a Vote yesterday for £10000 for the Service I cannot learn that any Scheme is yet fallen on for raising the money but am not without hopes that a Bill will be prepared in such a manner as to obtain the Concurrence or Approbation of all the Branches of the Legislature, this a few Days will determine & enable me to inform you of the Issue of our Meeting. In Obedience he says w^th^ your Desire Capt Steven has writ to inform me that M^r^ Dick has contracted for 200

Beeves to be delivered one half before the 10th June the rest Letter Bk. II.
before the End of the same month at the Camp whereever the Troops shall happen to be between Wills Creek & the River Monongahela at 17/ ℔ cent (the fifth Quarter according to the custom of the Country) on condition you would agree to advance him £300 in the Beginning of march. Capt Steven says that he believes your Honour ordered him to mention this to me that I might write my opinion thereon, that you will be pleased to recollect I acquainted you with wn I had the Satisfaction of seeing you & still think the proposal an acceptable one if the man could give good Security for his performance, but I make no doubt by yr Honour has eer this advised wth the General thereon & given Directions accordingly. I hope our p. 64
Assembly will think of returning home the End of this & then I propose & hope I shall be able to be in Virginia the beginning of the ensuing week.

I am

[Sharpe (to William Sharpe?)]

Since my Appointment to the Command of the American Forces I do'nt doubt but every Body on your Side the Atlantick have been in constant Expectations of hearing of some Exploit in America in Consequence of his Majesty's honouring me with such a Commission. On the first Receipt of it tho the winter was then unhappily just approaching I was not absolutely without hopes myself of being enabled to satisfy in some measure my Friends Wishes for my Success & prosperity when I was in Virga I proposed to Govr Dinwiddie to raise 700 Men immediately & with them & the Independant Companies to have made an Attempt on the Fort that the Enemy had raised at the Mouth of the Monongahela, but whatever were my wishes at that time I was soon convinced of their Vanity when I arrived at Will's Creek. there I learnt that the Number of the French at their Fort exceeded 600 beside several Parties of Indians who were at their Devotion & submitted to their Command. The Fort tho small was rendered pretty defensible by a Ditch & two Out works before the Curtains that faced the Land on the Side of the Rivers it was surrounded with Stoccadoes or Palisades & the Garrison had laid in a sufficient Stock of Provision for at least the whole winter.

The Troops that I must have commanded were three Independant Companies that did not in the least answer the Expectations I had entertained of them, the Remains of the Virga Forces amounted to about 120 discontented unruly & mutinous; the Maryland Company was at that time incompleat &

Letter Bk. II. p. 65 undiciplined but I may without vanity declare they were equal to any there. The Officers who bore his Majesty's Commission would not deign to rank with those who served under his Governor's Commissions; in vain were my Attempts to persuade them to agree tho I proposed the same Scheme which I find is now come with a Sanction from home. Such Jealousies & Enmities subsisted between the Officers of the Carolina Independants & the Virg[a] Regiment that their Meeting would have been attended with innumerable Mischiefs & Confusion, perhaps the greater the Number of such Troops as these the greater had been the Danger of a Miscarriage had I ventured to make an Attempt—You can easily guess that I did not entertain very sanguine hopes after this my Visit to the Camp I had writ to the several Colonies for Supplies but received scarcely hopes of Assistance from any other & but very little from my own Govern[t] The Levies went on very slowly, what a figure the Virginia Recruits even at this time make you will know I doubt not without a hint from me: To have attempted anything & failed of Success must have been attended with the entire Loss of such Indians as have hitherto seemed or appeared to be in our Interest. in these Circumstances what could be done beside giving necessary Orders to protect our Frontiers till the Arrival of the Troops from Europe (which Letters had by this time bid us expect) should make things put on a better face. that nothing however might be wanting on my part to shew my Duty to His Majesty & promote the Service of these Colonies I again met our Assembly but the same Cause as had before again disappointed my Wishes—His Majesty's & the Proprietary's Interest & Instructions must be made to clash & no money is to be raised unless his Lordship's private Claims be made submit to the Demands & Caprice of an infatuated Assembly. I have met them once p. 66 more on the same Account but fear the Issue of this will be too similar to that of the last Session. Had the Capt. of the Vessel who conveys you this given me a Day or two's Notice I should have been glad to have given you a more minute & particular Detail of these late Transactions but it being otherwise I must at present content myself with acquainting you that S[r] John S[t] Clair found me the latter End of January at the Camp for w[ch] place he departed soon after his Arrival in Virg[a] from thence I accompanied him back to Williamsburg (giving Directions for & engaging Quarters for the expected Regiments in our way) where we hoped to see General Braddock by that time arrived, but being disappointed in that particular & having appointed our Assembly to meet the 20[th] of feb[y] I could not postpone my Return to Annapolis to have the pleasure of paying my Respects in person to the General at his Arrival.

Instead of that I left a Letter for him with Mr Dinwiddie Letter Bk. II.
& have since had the Satisfaction to receive one from himself
in which he is pleased to compliment me on the Care I had
taken to put matters in forwardness & get provisions laid in
against the Troop's Arrival who are daily expected. Governor
Dinwiddie also informs me that he has sent an Express to the
Northward with Dispatches from the General desiring Governor
Shirly will meet him at my house to concert their plan of
Operation. I shall be advised what time the General will
appoint such an Interview & I propose to meet him in Virga &
conduct him hither & hope by my Behaviour to give him per-
fect Satisfaction—I am extremely obliged to you for the Care
& Affection you always have had & still continue to have for
me. The General has not as yet communicated to me any
Command that I am to have, nor is there any unless the
Rangers consisting of 8 Companies of 53 Men each which my
Commission as Lt Colo will entitle me to, however, no p. 67
Punctillio shall prevent my obeying any Orders he shall be
pleased to signify if the least consistent with the Station that I
now bear. It gives me no small concern to find that out of
three or four Letters sent you only one has come to hand &
you may assure yourself that I will never give Occasion for
more Complaints on that head. I have taken an Opportunity
of assuring Mr Brown of my Intentions to serve him as soon as
it be put in my power by some better Ecclesiastical preferment
becoming vacant that will suit him for he will not exchange his
present preferment for many that may become vacant. Mr
Razer I have seen & treated him kindly he has taken up his
Residence in Pensilvania but I will mention him to Govr Morris
in my first Letter & shall be glad to shew him all the Civility
in my power. I acquainted Mr Thomas with the Contents of
your Letter & he was well satisfied when I assured him that
tho I could not as his Father also thinks propose him to my
Lord as a Councillor yet I would embrace the first Occasion of
serving him, but I must note to you that I have disposed of
only one place since my Arrival the Value of that about £50
Stg p Ann. & the numerous Recommendations from his Ldp
& Mr Calvert will I am apprehensive leave but few Places to
my Disposal.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 106

12th March [1755] transmitted by Capt. McGahen

Sir

Your Favour of the 10th Decr together wth his Ldp's Instruc-
tions I had the Satisfaction to receive a week since by Capt

Letter Bk. I. Spencer as the Assembly was then sitting I immediately obeyed His Ldp's Instructions by acquainting them that His Ldp had been pleased to Dissent to the Act for impowering the several Courts within this province to order Commissions for the Examination of Witnesses residing beyond Sea, & that concerning Turkey point prayed for by Cotterel I also intimated to them by the same Message that the Inspection Law w^d^ meet with the same fate unless they w^d^ proceed to repeal the Clauses
p. 107 w^ch^ respect the Limitation of Officers fees & the Regulation of Coin. A Bill I learn is preparing in the Lower House to re-enact (as his Ldps pleasure is) that part of the first above mentioned Laws w^ch^ regards the Foreclosure of Mortgages; but I despair of seeing them prevailed on to repeal any part of the Inspection Law on any account whatever, in that Case the Gent^n^ of the Upper House propose to Address His Ldp to let the law continue in force in its present form & to set forth the several Reasons that induced them to concur with the Lower House in passing it, for my own part as I have already offered such Reasons as occurred to me in favour of the Law I will not presume to enlarge again thereon but will only hope that His Ldp will excuse my consenting thereto after His Ldp's Council & all that I consulted or conversed with were unanimous in favour of the Clauses against w^ch^ the principal Objections lye so infatuated was the Majority of the House of Burgesses as to think the Law as far as it respects Tob^o^ evil in itself, & therefore were disposed to crush it, but to prevent the general Confusion & uneasiness that w^d^ attend the sinking of a Law which regulated Officers fees they agreed to pass it with some few Alterations from the former Law & the Addition of the Clause relating to the Valuation of Coin. That these Articles would be receded from, the Upper House found there was no room to hope & therefore consented to the Law as it is, for the Reasons that I have before hinted & which I apprehend they will offer more at large in the Address that they intend to present to His Ldp thereon. There certainly ought (as you observe) to have been farther acknowledgments made to His Ldp but there being none in the Inspection Law that expired at that time twas vain then to insist on the Insertion of such Clauses or periods in this Act. The Example also of the former will I hope plead my excuse for permitting any paragraph concerning Officers fees to be made a part of the present Act; beside in Alleviation of that seeming impro-
p. 108 priety you will please to consider that the Regulation of Officers fees must in some Sort be determined by the Inspection Law because on that Law depends the Worth & Value of Tob^o^ in which Fees have been always payable. I before consulted the Lawyers here & asked their Opinion whether & how

far the Law was repugnant to the Statute of Queen Ann, Letter Bk. I.
their Sentiments & my own at that time I have already taken
the Liberty to communicate, & for their parts they will not yet
be persuaded to entertain a contrary Opinion, As I did some
time since write, how, wherefore, & how much, the Law has
affected the paper Currency I would not presume to reply after
His Ldp has considered & taken Advice on the Affair, but I
hope you will pardon me for taking some notice of that part
of your Letter which expresses your Apprehensions least the
Neighbouring provinces should advantage themselves of such a
Regulation or Valuation of Coin among us. Were we indeed
to borrow of those Provinces your fears would not be without
foundation but I will assure you & am confident that is by no
means the Case with Maryland at present; did our Circum-
stances incline us or oblige us to become Borrowers, Virginia
has not money to lend, that Colony on the contrary is in
extreme want of Cash & I am credibly informed that scarce a
month passes but Virginians come to Maryland for Gold &
Silver & leave their Bonds & Land Deeds in the Custody of
His Ldps Tenants. In Pensilvania Gold & Silver passes as it
is valued in our Law, the Trade of that province being very
considerable requires a good deal of Circulating Cash & indeed
the want they feel of more Money among them is the Reason
they are so importunate for leave to strike more paper it seems
to be universally agreed here that the Regulation of the Tob°
Law gives us an advantage with respect to that Province & tho
some of our Bills of Excha are carried thither for Gold & Silver
I am convinced we must be the only Gainers by such an Inter-
course & Communication. His Ldps Instructions concerning
any future Act to regulate Ordinaries shall be most punctually
obeyed as shall His Ldps pleasure signified with respect to the
Lands on Nanticoke as soon as I can see Col° Lloyd whom I
expect in Town within a day or two & I will then advise with p. 109
him concerning some other Articles that you have been pleased
to notice in your Lett^r as well as his Ldps Instructions. You
will I hope believe & assure his Ldp that no pains &
Endeavours have been wanting on my part to procure a
speedy Completion & Transmission of the Rent Rolls in
Obedience to his Ldp's repeated Instructions & I promise you
I will not let the proper Officers have any Rest or Quiet till
they have performed that Duty. M^r Goldsborough arrived in
Town last night & this Day according to his Ldps Appoint-
ment took his place as one of His Ldp's Council, & I flatter
myself His Ldp will never have Cause to be displeased at my
Recommendation. As His Ldp desires I will mention some
other Gentlemen that I esteem most worthy of the same
honour, beside M^r Dulany who was thrown out of the Assembly

Letter Bk. I. at the late Election & Mr Tilgman whom I before mentioned I take the Liberty to mention Colo Robt Jenkins Henry & Mr Philip Key, the first is Judge of Assize on the Eastern Shore He has always manifested himself a firm Friend to the Govt & the Ld proprietary's Interest during a great many years that he has represented Somerset Cty in Assembly the other Gentn too has approved himself a constant Supporter of the Governt many years in the Lower House but miscarried also in the late Election because it seems he was not sanguine enough against the Roman Catholicks in some of the late Sessions. Mr Rosse I will present to Morrow to All Hallows Parish in Worcester Cty according to His Ldp's Instruction & as Colonel Tasker has declined accepting the proposal that His Ldp was pleased to order me to make to him concerning the Half of the Land Office in lieu of his present place I shall comply with His Ldp's Instruction by ordering a Joint Commission to Mr Calvert & Doctor Steuart as Judges of the Land Office, & as Doctor Steuart is Commissioner of the Loan Office I shall engage him as I have intimated to Mr Calvert to make an extraordinary Allowance towards the present that His Ldp is
p. 110 pleased to order Mr Wogan annually from that Office. I have delivered your Letter to Mr Darnall & acquainted him with the proposition His Lordsp was pleased to order me to make to him. As His Friends had before advised him that I had Orders to Commission him to the Naval Office of Potuxent on Colonel Platers Removal he came to Annapolis with such Expectation, but as Colo Plater has desired some time to inspect the Secretary's Office & consider of the proposal that I made him by his Ldps Instructions & yours to succeed Mr Jennings & that I would not immediately appoint him a Successor in the Naval Office of Potuxent on which River His House & plantation are situate, I could not satisfy Mr Darnalls Expectations in that respect & he was averse to resigning the post of Attorney Genl till He could be otherways better provided for. In a Letter that I did myself the honour to write to you in Septr last I acquainted you that the Mannour known by the Appellation of Lady Baltimores manner lay under particular Circumstances what induces me to mention that Matter again is that I find myself unable to comply with His Ldps Requisition by transmitting a compleat Collection of platts or Draughts of His Ldps several Mannours till I receive particular Directions with respect to that Mannour I have inclosed a platt of one of the mannours in Somerset Cty which is not & never was in the Land Records or elsewhere distinguished by any name.

His Ldp will be pleased to signify by what Title it shall be called & it shall be entered in the Book that I shall transmit I hope before the End of the Summer. You will be pleased to

remember that about the time that Mr Ogle died, A Cause Letter Bk. I.
came on to be heard before the provincial Court in which a
Son of Mr Thomas was plantiff & the Vestry of St Mary Ann
Parish in Cæcil Cty Defendant. The Matter disputed was
the Right of the Vestry to 100 Acres of Land part of Talbot
Mannour which the Defendants contended they held under the p. 111
persons who purchased it of that Talbot who was convicted in
Virginia for a Murder committed on board one of his Majesty's
Ships in Potuxent River. The Provincial Court did not enter
much into the Merits of the Cause but gave their Judgment
that the Supreme Court of Virginia could not properly take
Cognizance of a Crime committed in this province therefore
that the conviction was illegal & that the Copy of the Record
of the Conviction ought not to be Evidence in this Govt This
Judgment of the provincial Court might have been attended
with ill Consequences with respect to his Ldps Title to the
whole Mannour. therefore Mr Thomas & the Agent not being
of opinion that the Court ought to have regarded or deter-
mined on that point desired to be heard against the Judgment
in the Court of Appeals, which Court on a Hearing about 13
weeks since did reverse the Judgment of the Provincial for the
Reasons offered by the Appellent. The Action brought by
Mr Thomas was to recover 100 Acres of Land that the Vestry
holds & claims. Mr Thomas had taken a Lease of the Agent
under His Ldp & was to have enjoyed it had a Verdict been
given in his favour. There are about 500 Acres more of the
mannour under the same or similar Circumstances which are
claimed by one Mr Baker a Burgess under Deeds of Sale &c
from sundry persons who had purchased under the Heirs or
Executors of that Talbot the Father. The Judgment of the
provincial Court being reversed Mr Thomas is at Liberty to
insist on a new Hearing before that Court but his fears lest the
Issue of a Tryal should affect his Ldps Title incline him to drop
his pretensions especially as the Vestry & Mr Baker are willing
to remove all Occasion for future Disputes by consenting to
Lease the Land they respectively claim if His Ldp will grant
them Leases renewable for ever on the same terms that the
Rest of the Mannour is leased. The other parts of the Man-
nour that lye south of the Temporary Line were I am informed
leased by his late Ldps Order to avoid Disputes with such as
were in possession who wd else have contested His Ldps Title. p. 112
The Leases renewable every 99 years on payment of a small
Fine two fines payable on every Alienation & a small Quit
Rent reserved. Colo Lloyd & Mr Tasker are of Opinion with
me that if His Ldp be so pleased the Propositions of Mr Baker
& the Vestry should be received. You will be pleased to sub-
mit this to his Ldp & direct what shall be done & also whether

Letter Bk. I. Mr Thomas's hopes should be answered wth some Recompence for the Expence he has been at in supporting his Action & thereby His Ldps Title—I am sorry the Laws are not yet transcribed because it gives you some uneasiness. You must be sensible it required no small Labour or short time to examine all the Records since the year 1704 (when a general repealing Law passed) & to be careful to reject all the Laws which had been repealed by subsequent Acts. This I undertook to do myself & having accurately gone thro the Records & noted the Titles of such as remain in force I delivered my notes to the Copyists who are now transcribing without Relaxation & I hope my Care in this Affair when I transmit the Laws in two or 3 Volumes will meet with His Ldps & Your Approbation.

You are pleased in your favour by Mr Rosse to recommend Mr Nichols to the Sheveralty of Queen Ann Cty, about 4 months ago I commissioned one Mr Hopper a Gentn who had behaved very well in the Assembly & was earnestly recommended to that Office but I have entered Mr Nichols in my Memm Book as his next Successor. I have inclosed my speech to both Houses at the Opening of this Session also their respective Addresses in Answer & my Replies. The Lower House proceeded to vote the Sum of £10,000. for the Service, to be raised much after the same manner as the £7000. was proposed to be by the Bill printed in the last Journal of the Lower House proceedings, the Bill was returned them with a Negative & Reasons for the Upper Houses's Refusal, I learn the House of Delegates have resolved to send it up again with Answers to those Reasons & Arguments to support the Bill, this is all that has yet been done & I am indeed apprehensive that the Issue of this will not be very unlike that of the late Session. As the short Notice that was given me of this Ships being about to sail has not afforded me time to be so prolix as I could have wished I hope you will excuse me for not repeating to you what I have taken the Liberty to write to his Ldp concerning the Military Affairs & Occurrences that have happened since my last which you would not think perhaps very interesting or important had I given a Detail of them. Something on that Subject you may expect in my next in the Interim you will believe that I am with the greatest Respect Yr most obliged &c.

p. 376 [Sharpe to Calvert.]

March the 12th 1755.

Sir

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of Yr favour dated the 12th of December, for the Confidence you

vouchsafe to put in me be pleased to accept my grateful thanks Letter Bk. I.
& rest assured that I will by the most exact & punctual Compliance with Your Expectations endeavour to approve myself worthy of it. Your Assurance to render my Administration as easy as possible sensibly affects me & I beg leave to repeat on my part the promise that I made my Lord that no views of Interest, no prejudice no Affection or Friendships shall divest me at any time from pursuing & advising whatever I think the most likely means to promote his Ldp's Interest. This led me to recommend Mr Dulany Mr Goldsborough & Mr Tilghman to His Ldp's favourable Notice, having never heard the least thing objected to either of these Gentlemen's Characters I was persuaded they would not be disapproved of on that Acct & if you knew how unaccustomed or how averse the present members (except perhaps Mr Thomas) were to writing or communicating their thoughts to the lower House by Message on any Occasion you would I am persuaded think with me that it is highly requisite the vacancies in his Ldp's Council should be supplied with Gentn of Abilities who have been used to argue or write & would be capable of supporting his Ldp's Rights & prerogatives whenever a Levelling House of Burgesses should be inclined to attack them. You know Sir that few People will choose to engage in a Dispute with those whose superiour Capacity they are sensible of & have experienced this Consideration is an Inducement to my giving Gentlen of Abilities the preference in my Recommendation of Persons for His Ldp's Council, if such can be found distinguished at the same time for their Probity in their respective Neighbourhoods. in case His Ldp should be unwilling to advance either of the abovenamed Gentn I have also named two others as you will please to observe in my other Letter. Application you are pleased to tell me has been made in favour of Mr Cha Goldsborough & Mr Richd Lloyd with the past Conduct of the first you are already acquainted & I must confess I should be sorry to see him in the Station to which he Aspires tho he should become less a favourer of popular measures than he has hitherto been & I apprehend because I have heard them intimate as much that such a preference would give no small uneasiness to most of the other Members. Out of Respect & Regard for Coll. Lloyd I have already commissioned Mr Richd Lloyd to be a provincial Magistrate but I should be very glad he was not so earnestly recommended to be of his Ldp's Council. As a Gentleman I esteem him but I p. 377
have before ventured to tell you that to be free from every fault or to be a worthy man & good Companion is not in my opinion sufficient at this time to recommend a Person to a Seat at the Council Board. You seem to be of Opinion that

Letter Bk. I. in Case Colonel Lloyd should go to England & leave the Care & Administration of His Ldp's Affairs with his Brother it would be proper he should be in the Council. I agree that it might be expedient for his Ldp's Agent to have a place there but I much question if Colonel Lloyd will resolve to take the Voyage you mention & tho he should come to such a Resolution yet he would not I imagine tarry there long unless he has a Desire of getting his Brother confirmed in his Offices here. however tho I will not recommend Mr Lloyd to supply either of the present yet if he shall be appointed to transact His Ldp's Business I would not oppose his Succession in case of future Vacancies. Indeed I will never vehemently oppose any Gentn who might be warmly recommended to His Ldp lest I give Offence, neither will I very earnestly espouse any one whom I may mention favourably, lest I give Suspicion of having any particular prejudice or Attachment. I begin to see that the Art of disposing of Places so as to avoid Offence is one of the most difficult parts of Govt & tis not without great Concern that I see yourself rendered uneasy by many & contrary Sollicitations. His Ldp too I am afraid will be troubled with too many Applications on the same Acco^{t} I communicated his Ldp's Instructions with regard to the Land Office to Colonel Tasker which (as Mr Bladen intimated to you) he declined, not esteeming a moiety of the Fees that accrue to that Office equal to the Fees that he receives from that he now enjoys, which he can execute by Deputy & from which he says he receives about £200 Sterl a year clear of his Deputy's Sallary: beside the Value of his present Office is certain & not dependant on the fluctuating price of Tobacco. As Mr Bordley has been represented in an unfavourable Light to his Ldp I decline espousing him as I think he deserves, at least as his Behaviour since I have known him would incline me hoping the time will come when he will appear in his Ldp's Sight as meriting his mark of favour As Mr Darnalls Correspondents
p. 378 or Friends had advised him (even before I had opened my Letters) that I had his Ldp's Orders to appoint him to the Naval Office of Potuxent I had little Room to suppose he would resign on any other Consideration than receiving a Commission for that Office. Was there an Opportunity of giving him that place he must also continue Attorney Genl because no such Lawyer as I would recommend could afford to act as His Ldp's Attorney for the present perquisites & Fees of that Office. When I acquainted Colo. Plater with yr Expectations from him in case he accepted yr kind Offer he desired a Day or two to examine into the Profitts of the Secretarys Office & then declared himself unwilling to accept it if he must pay more than one fourth part of the Income. I am

a little doubtfull that he has been induced to return me such an Answer by some who being disappointed themselves have persuaded him that it is not His Ldp's Desire or Expectation that Mr Jennings's Successor should make you a more reasonable Return & Remittance than he did while he remained in that post. Since the Receipt of yr kind Letter I cannot divest myself of all suspicion that Collo Tasker dealt a little unfairly with me some time since when he told me in Answer to a hint that I dropt to him that he had made no application at all for the Succession of the Secretary's Office. I need not I presume intimate to you what he would expect was His Ldp to appoint him to that place, that you will guess & determine thereon as you shall think proper. You speak in Your Lettr as if you had sent your Deputation to Colo Plater but as I could not find any such Parchment or Paper among the Letters I am apt to think it was not inclosed in the Box. The best terms that I could bring him to consent to were as I above observed to pay one fourth of all the Fees annually & the like proportion of wt money or Presents he should receive on the nomination of County Clerks, such an Agreement I did not conceive myself at Liberty to make & indeed I think that he ought to have offered one third of the Profitts at least. Upon this Accot therefore I have declined commissioning him till I can know Yr farther pleasure, but have engaged him to let the Duty & Business of the Office be executed in the Interim by the Clerk in his name & he continues to enjoy the Naval Office till you & His Ldp shall be pleased to determine thereon. He has he says examined into the Benefitts of the place tendered him & finds they amounted in the year 1753 as he has noted in the inclosed paper which he delivered me as it is, in which you will please to observe he has valued Tobo at 10 Shillings ℔ Cent. I had valued according to the Inspection Law at 12s 6d I had estimated the Fees on an Average for five years past he only for one, neither had I allowed for Cask & Shrinkage as he has done; indeed while the Fees are payable in Tobacco these Offices may one Year be twice as valuable as they are another, & if the Inspection Law drops there is reason to fear they will be but very inconsiderable as the Fees will always be paid in the very worst Tobo & the Marketts will at the same time be much overstocked—

Letter Bk. I. p. 379

You are pleased to acquaint me that His Ldp desires Recommendation from me of Personages from the Lower House to be now & then preferred to be of his Council of State & that it would be right for me to observe thereon in my publick Letters & that His Ldp also desires the members of the Lower House or their Families may have share of his favours as thereby their Virulency may be abated: I do not know how

Letter Bk. I. to express myself as to this in my publick Letters unless you would be kind enough to give me some Opening by one of yours but I will assure you that I am persuaded to countenance the Virulent in the Lower House of Assembly or withdraw them thence by giving them preferment will be like beheading a Hydra where three Serpents Heads are fabled to have immediately sprouted out in the place of one. Mr Dulany was an Assembly man when I recommended him first. Mr Goldsborough & Mr Tilghman I thought more able & proper persons to fill his Ldps Council than any among the destinguished Burgesses; Colo Henry is a Burgess & Mr Key was one till very lately, but His Ldp's favouring such Gentn will never gain him the Love of that infatuated Collection or Society. Since
p. 380 I have had the honour of serving His Ldp in this Govt I have just as Mr Iennings left the Province appointed one County Clerk on his Recommendation which it would have been hardly decent in me to disregard as he had engaged his Promise some time before. A Commissioner of the Loan Office dying before Mr Jennings left the Province His earnest Recommendation also influenced me in the Disposal of that place, Colo Lloyd His Ldp was pleased to appoint Rent Roll Keeper of the Western Shore by his Instructions & Mr Chamberlayne on resigning the Naval Office of Pocomoke succeeds Colo Lloyd in that of Oxford. The Naval Office of Pocomoke & general Surveyor ship of the Eastern Shore is held for the Benefit of Mrs Graham, The Sheveralties of Kent & Queen Ann Counties are filled with two Burgesses one on Colo Lloyds Recommendation the other on Mr Taskers; the Sheveralty of St Marys is given at Mr Taskers Request, that of Ann Arundel to one Mr Raitt at His Ldp's Command. These beside the Commissarys & Land Office are all that have as well as I remember been vacant since my Arrival excepting the Farmers places wch have been filled where the old ones threw up by such as we could persuade to undertake them. I know not how I forgot to mention the Rent Roll Keepers in my List returned they continue according to His Ldp's Instructions Colo Lloyd for the Western Shore & Mr Tilghman for the Eastern, Colo Lloyd has promised to let me know what is the annual value of the Offices he holds as soon as he has setled his years Accounts & then I will acquaint you with Colo Hammonds & Mr Tilghmans Profitts also. I must declare in favour of Mr Thomas that I esteem him a Man of Ability & by wt I can find his Conduct in the late Lds time has been represented in a much worse light than it deserved; how his Ldp will choose to shew him his Mark of Favour I leave to His Ldps & your Determination. I do propose to oblige Mr Hanbury & serve Mr Wolstenholme as soon as an Opportunity

offers, wherefore I would beg the favour of you to hear no Application for the Sheveralty of this County when it shall become vacant which will not be near these three years. To succeed Doctor Steuart in the Loan Office would by no means suit him as that requires the Commissioners to be almost constantly resident in Town & Mr Wolstenholme's Business often calls him abroad. Mr Wm Thomas also lives in this County which will I am afraid put it out of my Power to serve him for some time. Time will not permit me to write to Mr Hanbury & acknowledge the Receipt of his Letter by Mr Harrison till the next Opportunity but you will very much oblige me by presenting my Respects & making my Excuse to him lest he should otherwise think me negligent or forgetful. As His Ldp was pleased to write in express Terms his Expectations that an annual Present should be made Mr Wogan by the Judges of the Land Office I could not presume to propose any other means, had there been a possibility of my securing any other Office for that purpose as you was pleased to hint. Your Desire in favour of Mr Harrison on Acco[t] of his Alliance I shall gladly comply with but as he also resides in this County I am entirely at a loss by what means I can as yet do it. I have taken this Opportunity of inclosing you Bills as heretofore for your use & Disposal, tho I had no opportunity of securing such a Sum as you desired for Mrs Hide when I made former Remittances yet I was unwilling to delay what you desired in respect to her, but I will with your Approbation repay myself the three sums that I have now advanced out of the Fees that have arisen in the Land Office since Mr Youngs Decease, & for the future out of any other Offices that may happen to be similarly circumstanced.— Letter Bk. I. p. 381

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] p. 113

March 12th 1755

My Ld

As I have writ fully to your Ldps Secy on the provincial Transactions & private Concerns in Answer to the Instructions that I had a few Days since the Satisfaction to receive from your Ldp I flatter myself I shall be excused for not being troublesome or tedious by a particular Detail & Account in this Letter of such matters as I have now communicated to Mr Calvert to be submitted to your Ldp according to your Ldps Instructions. inclosed with Mr Calverts last I had also the pleasure to receive a Lett[r] which yourself had vouchsafed to honour me with for that kind Testimony of your Ldps favour I beg leave to make my most grateful Acknowledgments & at

Letter Bk. I. the same time to assure y^r^ Ldp that the Regard you are pleased to shew for M^r^ Wogan will make me see your Ldp's Expectations with respect to him punctually complied with.— A few Days after I did myself the honour to address a Letter to your Ldp in Jan^y^ last I departed for the Camp at Wills Creek to put in Execution what I then mentioned. After I
p. 114 had been there a week I had the pleasure to see S^r^ J S^t^ Clair arrive also, after which we tarried there only one Day & in Order to examine the Channel of that River we came down Potowmack by water for the Distance of about 250 Miles, the many Falls & Shoals in that River will we find render the conveyance of Artillery & other Stores to the Camp by water impracticable, the 5^th^ Day from our leaving the Camp we reached Alexandria or Belhaven a Town on the South Bank of Potowmack just below the great Falls of that River having purchased & secured all the Provisions & Forrage that was to be gotten on each side the Water as we came down, staying a Day at Belhaven we proceeded to Dumfries & Fredericksburg in Virginia providing & engaging Quarters for the Troops in each of those places & from thence we journyed to Williamsburg where we hoped to find General Braddock by that time arrived. We have agreed to quarter 5 of the Companies from Europe for a month or so to refresh themselves after their Voyage if the General approves thereof, in your Ldp's province, one Company at Marlbro, one at Bladensburg a third at Rock Creek three Towns in Prince George C^ty^ & two at Frederick Town which stands on Monoceasy River in Frederick C^ty^ beside the Maryland Company which I have before mentioned to your Ldp I had raised 80 more Recruits in this Province but have reason to fear they will be so much approved of that 150 from the Company & them will be drafted into the English Regiments in that Case I shall form two Companies each consisting of 50 Men in your Ldps Gov^t^ for the honour of the province even tho the Assembly should determine to grant no farther Supplies.

I have rec^d^ a Lett^r^ yesterday from Gen^l^ Braddock dated at Williamsburg where He arrived the 25^th^ Feb^y^ the Transports with the Train of Artillery are also arrived in Virginia & the Troops from Ireland are dayly expected Governor Dinwiddie
p. 115 also advises me that He has sent an Express to the Northw^d^ w^th^ Dispatches from the General desiring Governor Shirley would as soon as possible give him a Meeting at Annapolis to concert the plan of Opperations so that I expect to have the pleasure of seeing those Gent^n^ here in about a fortnight or 3 weeks I shall wait on the General at Alexandria as soon as I hear of his Arrival to conduct him to Annapolis & your Ldp will be pleased to think that I shall chearfully obey y^r^ Ldp's

Commands by paying him all possible Respect during his Stay here & on every other Occasion. I am with the greatest Gratitude My Ld Yr Ldps mo obliged & mo devoted &c. Letter Bk. I.

[Calvert to Sharpe.] Original.

Sr

The pleasure you promised me in yor of the 11th of Decr of hearing from you on Affairs by Capt Coolidge, who you mention was to sail in a few days after, the satisfaction thereof I have not by the same, the ship is arrived. The Complection of matters between France & us gives great Apprehension of a War, and as she often acts sudden without notice, I fear her first onset on our Trade Ships.

The not hearing from Mr Lloyd the Agent gives uneasyness, who in his last Letter says, he had 3000£ Cash & shoud have Considerable more for my Lord due St Michl which he shoud be Obliged to send in Specie, good Bills of Exchs not being to be had, therefore woud transmit it soon after Xmas of wch I have received no intelligence for Insurance.

Inclosed is yor Brothr Iohn's Letter concerning the Postponing the Maryland Salt Bill from being brought into Parliamt this Sessions & will disclose the unavoidable reasons for the same & Iustify his Lordp having done all he can to get it; What turn it may take the next Sessions I can't Predict.

Yor Intelligence of General Affairs abot the French in America is very acceptable to the administration here; But I know not how it is such Advices from you, also of yor proceedings in Maryland, are Recd here by others some time e'r wee have them from you.

Inclos'd is a pamphlet abot Pensilvania, the author sets forth the Artfull pecuniary pusalanimity of Quaker Goverment, agt the Fundamental Law of Nature that of Self preservation.

The Governt here go on Increasing their Naval Armament & Compleating Regimts arrivd from Ireland, 'tis said at Brest the French are doing the same.

With Esteem. Yors sincerely

Cæcils Calvert

London 17. March 1755.

All Officers in Town belonging to the Forces in Scotland & Ireland are ordered to repair to their Regimts 'tis said there is now ready between 40 & 50 ships of the Line. Informations of several French Officers taken in Scotland.

Sr

having forgot to mention in my Letter I put this in as Post Mrs Bladen having requested of my Lord for a Living on

Behalf of a Scotchman who is Clergyman & Married her Woman My Lord desires you'l Present him with S^{t} Iohn's or Christ Church, smal Livings Vacat'd in Queen Ann County it will be proper of having some trial of him as Aprobation.

C C.

To Gov^{r} Sharpe.

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Alexandria March the 28th 1755

I am just returned from my Iourney from the Fort, where I have greatly incurrd the Displeasure of the New York Companys. As I am just going to take my leave of this place, I have taken the liberty of sending my Servant to your Excelly to request of you to send me the Horse, I shoud be very sorry to ask any thing that woud put you to any Inconveniency, all I shall say is that I shall look on it as a great obligation if you will be so good as to spare him to me. I beg your Excellency will be so good as to let me have the Box of Candles, my servant will be able to bring it w^{t} him, & if you have any provision sent up towards the Camp it wou'd be of great Service to me, and shall thankfully pay you the Cost of it. I have the Honour of being with the greatest Respect

Your Excellencys
Most obedient and most
humble Servant
John S^{t} Clair

ps. All here are well & our Affairs have a good look, we shall be moving soon, part by Frederick. I have undertaken to cut the Road by Enochs

I am ordered by His Excelly to acquaint you that, he begs you will send him an Express, when you hear that Gov^{r} Shirley is on the Road, that he may be at Anapolis at the same time. I must beg of you that you will buy me at Anapolis, a Doz^{n} of Augurs & as many Carpenters Chissells as you can get. my Servant will be able to bring some of them w^{t} him

Adieu

His Excell^{y} Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Letter Bk. I. p. 115

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

10th of April transmitted by the way of Phil^{a}

Sir

By an Express just going to Phil^{a} I put this Letter on Board a Ship that is expected to sail from that Port in about 3 weeks lest the Ship by which I purpose to send Packetts to His Ldp

& yourself should not arrive at London so soon tho she is to Letter Bk. I.
sail hence before the Ship from Phila[a] I am sorry to acquaint
you that little regard has been paid by the Lower House to his
Ldp's Requisition concerning an Amendment of the Inspection
Law which I inforced by a Message as soon as I received his
Lordships Instructions with how great Concern must I advise
you also of the Issue of our last Session of Assembly which
concluded the 26[th] of last Month. After a Month had been
spent in sending Messages from one House to the other (those
from the Gent[n] of the Upper House containing Objections to
the Bill offered for granting a Sum of Money for His Majesty's
Service & supporting those Objections, & those from the other
Gent[n] to inforce the Bill they had offered) the Upper House
put an End to the Dispute by rejecting the Bill absolutely
chiefly on Account of its farther Mortgaging & appropriating
the Ordinary Lycences, whereupon the Burgesses came to a
Resolution (which they would not be inclined by two Messages
to recede from) not to grant a Shilling by any other means p. 116
then such as were similar to those proposed by the Bill which
was framed last Session. I have now prorogued them to July
next but cannot indeed entertain the least hopes of meeting
them with greater Success at that time. The Assembly of
Pensilvania are now sitting but the same Cause as before has
again made the Governor reject a Bill offered for £25.000.
however we are told that they have resolved to give a Sum of
Money from their Treasury to buy some provisions for Gov-
ernor Shirleys & S[r] W[m] Pepperels Regiments as they did
before for those that are in Virginia under the Command of
General Braddock.

The Virg[a] Assembly are to meet again in May but Gov[r]
Dinwiddie seems to entertain no very sanguine Expectations.

The second day after I had prorogued the Assembly I set off
for Alexandria where the Regiments were encamped to wait
on & pay my Respects to the General who came thither two
Days before. last Thursday the General, Governor Dinwiddie,
Comodore Kepple & two other Gentlemen came hither in
Expectation of meeting Gover[r] Shirley at this place but He not
arriving according to Appointment the General & Company
returned to Alexandria last Monday. Governor Shirley has
not yet reached Annapolis but I expect him & Gov[r] Morris to
Morrow & shall the next morning accompany them to Alex-
andria where the General proposes to tarry till the Middle or
End of next week whence he will proceed to Frederick Town
in his way with the Regiments to Wills Creek. With the
Generals Approbation all the Men that had been raised in this
Province are taken into the English Regiments except a Com-
pany of 53 which is still kept up for the honour of his Ldps

Letter Bk. I. province. Gover[r] Dinwiddie proposes to keep on foot 9 Companies each consisting of the same Number but I am doubtful he will be not a little streightened for Money to pay them notwithstanding the £10000 sent him from home in October with Liberty to draw Bills for as much more—The frequent Miscarriages of Letters that are sent hence to England by the
p. 117 Way of Phila[a] makes me decline writing very particularly by this Vessel especially as I shall send a packett by that which is about to sail from Potuxent

I am with the greatest Respect Sir./

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

19th April transmitted by Capt.

Sir

By my Letter of the 10th Inst. I intimated to you what had been the Issue & Result of our Assembly's last Meeting which you will be more particularly acquainted with from a perusal of the Iournals of the proceedings of both Houses which I herewith transmit together with a Copy of the Bill sent to the Upper House under the Title of an Act for His Majesty's Service. You will easily perceive that a great Majority of the Delegates came with a fixed Resolution to grant no money but after the manner that had been refused by the Upper House the preceeding Session & from this Resolution I have little hopes of seeing them recede when I meet them again which the General & M[r] Shirley seem to insist on my doing next Month at which time the respective Assemblies of Carolina's Virg[a] & Pens[a] will also be convened & once more sollicited & importuned for Supplies. You will observe after what manner the Lower House express themselves on the Ordinary Lycences both in their Messages to the Upper House & their two Addresses to me of which I proposed to take some notice to them in the prorogueing Speech that I had prepared but the Gent[n] of the Council thought it more adviseable for me to dismiss them without any Speech at all. Their Address in Answer to my message on the Receipt of His Ldp's Instructions will shew you with what Temper they received his Ldp's Determination concerning the Inspection Law which Obstinacy of the Lower House put the Gent[n] of the Council on preparing an Address to His Ldp relative to that Law which in Compliance with their Request I have inclosed in my Lett[r] to his Ldp but s[d] His Ldp remain still determined to dissent to the Act I must beg the favour of you to send me particular Instructions what sort of proclamation I must issue for regulating Officers Fees & what Reward shall be ordained for each particular

Service. You may be pleased to observe in the proceedings Letter Bk. I.
that on the Representation of Mr Crabb an ignorant over- p. 118
bearing Inhabitant of Frederick County the House thought proper to summon one Mr Rawlins a Magistrate of the aforesaid County who unhappily for him lives near Mr Crabb a Member of Assembly & had not shewn him such Deference as he perhaps expected. The pretended Reason for their proceeding to such Lengths with Mr Rawlins & making him attend their House almost during the whole Session to his great Detriment & Expence You will see in the Report of the Committee, & how unreasonable & unjust their proceedings were thereon will in part appear from the Substance of the papers on which my Message to them was founded. The Justice might perhaps be no Lawyer or well acquainted with such Learning as a Magistrate ought to be Master of but his Life & Conduct never that I can find gave the least Room for any Suspicion of his being unjust or partial & Men endowed with the contrary of these two Qualities only must in this Young Country be sometimes preferred to the Bench of Magistrates. Many of the Lower House when they came to be acquainted with & see into the whole Affair acknowledged themselves sorry that they had been so ready to credit Mr Crabbs Representations but as they had proceeded to take the Matters under their Consideration & to put the Magistrate to a great Expence they did not think it would redound much to their honour to drop the Affair entirely & therefore Addressed me thereon hoping I should take no farther notice of the matter; but as the Conniving at such a proceedure would have subjected all His Ldp's Magistrates & Iustices to the Caprice or humour of the Assembly & in fact made them dependant in great measure on them (seeing the Lower House might easily cook up pretences to summon any other Magistrates & put them to similar Expences) I thought it not proper or for his Ldp's Interest to pass over the Affair & their Address in Silence, but communicated to them my Sentiments in an Answer to their Address: as they begun to see the Levity of their Accusation & could not attempt to justify their Behaviour they resolved that some parts of my Message which bore hard on them should not be printed or make a part of their proceedings as you will see by comparing the true Copy of my Message with that entered in their Iournal.

Lest His Ldp or you may be at all imposed on by the Report p. 119
of the Committee concerning Cresap's & the Recruiting Officers Accots I must first advise you that t'was absolutely impossible for them to determine about the Justice or Reasonableness of the several Charges that their Committee have observed on from such general Accounts as were sub-

Letter Bk. I. mitted to them: Cresap had bought & laid in a large Quantity of Provision & many necessaries for the Troops by my Order, some were paid for & others not, Vouchers for his Delivery of these things to the Commissary of Stores who attends the Troops could not be sent because the Commissary had not yet received them, the Salt particularly which he charges Carriage of from Bladensburg was bought by Doctor Ross at my Order, whose bill not being sent in to the Assembly at that time they suspected Cresap's Acco^{ts} falsified where it really did not, indeed I cannot as yet determine myself about Cresaps Conduct but am apt to think that they will be glad to find him tripping if they can because he has behaved himself on all Occasions as a good Servant to the Gov^{t} I cannot at this place help observing to you that in the Bill which they had framed for regulating the Rates of Carriages &c they had allowed the Owners of Waggons 20 ℔ C^{t} more for Carriage ℔ mile than Cresap against whose Acco^{ts} they had been cavilling had actually charged. I make no doubt but they will be also well satisfied with the Officers Recruiting Acco^{ts} when they have them properly stated & laid before them, as I observe the Enlisting 58 Men mostly on the Eastern Shore bringing them over the Bay at 5/ a head & conveying them to the place of Rendezvous at Frederick on an Average cost for each about £3. 6 Curr^{y} only when the sole Charges of recruiting on former Occasions amounted to £5 for every Man. I cannot at present pretend to give my Opinion on the Acco^{ts} more than the Committee ought to have done but as I see their Report is entered in the written Journal of the Lower House I could not but make a Remark or two thereon. having inclosed to you the Bill framed for His Majesty's Service & that to prevent the Importation of
p. 120 Papists being entered in the Iournal I have nothing farther to observe thereon as the Titles of the Acts that were passed distinctly declare what is the Substance of each Act & as none of them are of a particular & extraordinary Nature & will be transmitted under the great Seal by the first Opportunity. In obedience to His Ldp's former Instructions I had ordered a very exact Acco^{t} of the Inhabitants of every Denomination in his Ldp's Province to be taken by the respective Constables but I cannot receive a Return from them before next August or Sept^{r} You will be pleased to recur to my Letter of the 12th of last August in which I submitted what occurred to me as the most likely means for his Ldp to get Quit-Rent paid him for such Surplus Lands as are at present held & enjoyed by many persons under old patents for which His Ldp receives no Acknowledgment; Col^{o} Lloyd tells me he has considered of the proposal I then offered to you & says his Sentiments are quite similar to my own thereon, & that he knows no way so

likely to obtain the End desired, of which I conceive he will Letter Bk. I.
himself acquaint you. A few Days after I had obeyed his Ldp's Instructions by issuing a Commission to M^r^ Calvert & Doctor Steuart as Joint Iudges of the Land Office they both came & presented me the inclosed Acco^t^ of the Annual Income of Fees to the Land Office which they assert is an exact Acco^t^ the Deductions therein made not more than actually happen & are allowed, & the neat Tobacco valued at as high a Rate as it will at present bear. I did not say any thing to their Representation but only that I would inclose it when I writ to you again which I now take the Liberty to do. I have acquainted His Ldp very particularly what the General is doing & about to execute this Summer: As his Ldp will acquaint you with those Affairs I hope to be excused for not writing particularly thereon to you at present which you will be kind enough to attribute to the short time that I could call my own lately & to my being obliged to depart this Afternoon to wait on the General at Frederickton next Tuesday Evening

I am with the greatest Respect.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

p. 121

April 19^th^ [1755]

My Ld

I am sorry to be obliged to acquaint your Ldp how averse the House of Burgesses have shewn themselves to making any Amendments in the Inspection Law in Obedience to your Ldps Request & Requisition, of which I advised them as soon as I had the honour to receive your Ldp's Instruction upon my communicating to the Gent^n^ of the Council the Address of the Lower House in answer to my message they told me that the Obstinacy of the Delegates in that matter would determine them to prepare an Address to your Ldp which they hoped I would not refuse to present, & tho I w^d^ not presume to urge any thing myself after your Ldp has signified your pleasure & Determination concerning that Law yet I thought myself obliged to comply with their Desire by transmitting the inclosed in a Letter to your Ldp. The proceedings of both Houses & the Consequence & Issue of their Meeting with respect to the Business & Service on w^ch^ they were convened your Ldp will learn from the Iournals now sent to be submitted to your Ldp & I should receive the greatest Satisfaction from knowing that your Ldp does not disapprove of the part which I have acted therein. The Letter that I did myself the honour to write the 12^th^ of March informed your Ldp that General

Letter Bk. I. Braddock was then arrived together with the Train of Artillery. I can now acquaint your Ldp that the Regiments too mustering about 500 Men each were the 28th of that Month all disembarked in good health & Spirits at Alexandria where they received the Generals Orders to Encamp till enough Drafts from the Maryland & Virga Companies & Recruits could join & compleat them to near 700 each, since his Arrival the General has received Instructions to have those Regiments increased to 1000 each for which purpose Officers & parties of Men have been ordered into each part of this Province as well as Pensa & Virga to recruit. The second Day after proroguing the Assembly I waited on & paid my Respects to General Braddock at Alexandria & the Tuesday following the General Commodore Kepple Govr Dinwiddie & the General's Aid de Camp & Secretary came hither in Expectation of meeting Governors Shirley Delancey & Morris at this place but they not arriving
p. 122 according to Appointment the General & Company returned to Alexandria the Monday following & gave Orders for the Troops to march Colo: Dunbar's on this Side & Colo Halketts on the other Side Potowmack towards Wills-Creek; & I expect that e'er this the Regiments are Encamped at Frederickton on Monoccasy & at Winchester in Virga respectively & the Train of Artillery is also on the Road thro Virginia to Wills-Creek. Of the 180 Men that I had raised only 60 are left (the rest being Drafted into the Regiments) which compose one Company from this Province & the Virginia Troops are formed into 9 Companies of the same number to be disposed of & employed as General Braddock shall think proper; at present two Virga & the Maryland Company are engaged in opening a Road to Wills-Creek & thence towards Juniata River in Pensilva which flows into Susquehanna. Two of the Independant Companies will I believe remain at Wills Creek during the Campaign & the third will march to the westward with the other Forces. The three Governors above mentioned from the Northward came hither the 11th & 12th Inst, & this Day Sennight I proceeded with them to Alexandria, which place we left again Thursday morning & they are now on their way returning to their respective Governts General Braddock departs from Alexandria to Day & I have promised to be with him next Tuesday Evening at Frederickton where I shall tarry till the 1st of May when all the Troops will be in Motion & he will proceed to Wills Creek & thence without any Stop or Delay for the Ohio. The General & Mr Shirley seem to expect & insist on the Assemblies of your Ldp's Province Pensa Virga & the two Carolina's being once more summoned on the same Business that has been lately so earnestly recommended to them; Governor Dinwiddie intends to shew his

ready Compliance by meeting the Virg[a] Assembly the 1[st] of May, Gover[r] Morris his the 10[th] Gover[r] Dobbs & Glen will also follow the Example, & I propose to take the Advise of your Ldp's Council thereon next Monday morning. The plan of Operations proposed to be pursued I take the Liberty to inclose to your Ldp & also a Copy of some Minutes taken at a Council which was held at Alexandria; Some Sections thereof will shew your Ldp the Opinions of the Gentlemen present thereat; to whom the General proposed several questions & desired their particular Sentiments thereon & Answers thereto. Letter Bk. I.

I apprehend the General (somewhat dissatisfied that no such Fund is already established will sollicit the Ministry to obtain an Act of Parliament whereby these several Colonies may be compelled to contribute towards a general Fund or Stock their several Quotas; in case such an Act should be moved for it might perhaps provide & ordain that the Quota imposed on each province be proportionable to the number of their Inhabitants respectively; but that it be left to the Assemblies Option in what manner to raise that Quota & to prevent useless Disputes & Controversies it might perhaps also direct that if the several Branches of each Legislature do not concur about Ways & Means within a certain time the Governor & Council to proceed to Levy the Money in some particular way or after any manner that may be deemed most ready & convenient what the General's or the other Governors may determine to do or write as to this matter I know not but I thought it my Duty to hint to your Ldp what possibly may happen, as I shall always do with respect to every thing worthy your Ldp's knowledge that I may have the least Intimation of & at all times endeavour to evince that with the highest Respect & Gratitude I am p. 123

[Sharpe to Robinson.] Letter Bk. II. p. 68

19[th] April 1755

Right Honble

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your three several Letters dated the 31[st] of Decem[r] & 23[d] of Ian[y] & at the same time to inform you that at my Return from the Camp at Wills Creek in Feb[y] I convened the Assembly of this province & used my utmost Endeavours to obtain the Supply's required by your Letter of the 26[th] of Oct[r] but with much Concern must I now acquaint you that all my Endeavours Recommendations & Importunities proved insufficient as I am afraid they will continue to be tho I am determined by General Braddocks Letters of Sollicitation to meet the Assembly of this Province again next Month & urge them to pay due

Letter Bk. II. Obedience to His Majesty's Expectations which he has graciously signified to them by those Letters which I have had the honour to receive from yourself. The Men that had been raised in this province before the General's Arrival are received into the English Regiments excepting a Company of 60 which in Obedience to the Generals Desire I continue to support in hopes the Assembly will at their next meeting be prevailed on to grant Money for that if not other purposes. As I had the pleasure of seeing S^r^ In S^t^ Clair arrive at the Camp not many Days after I reached Wills Creek in Jan^y^ & towards the End of last Month had the Satisfaction to hear of General Braddocks safe Arrival with the European Troops in Virg^a^ I had nothing to do but make such necessary preparations for the Reception of these Troops as the parcimonious Supply granted by our
p. 69 Assembly some time before had enabled me to make & as soon as I possibly could I did myself the honour to wait on the General in Virg^a^ to pay him my Respects & make a Tender of my Service. As I conceive His Excellency has himself advised you in what Condition he found the Independant Companies as well as the Provincial Troops & how matters were circumstanced at his Arrival & what measures he has since taken I cannot presume to write any thing on those particulars wherefore I shall content myself with acquainting you that Governor Shirley departed hence for N England this Morning after having had an Interview with General Braddock at Alexandria which place the General proposed also to leave this Day & proceed to Frederick Town on this Side Potowmack where I shall do myself the honour to wait on him next Tuesday & with his permission attend him to Wills Creek for which place the two Regiments will receive his Orders to march the end of this Month.

with the greatest Respect
I am, R^t^ Honble S^r^

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Annapolis April 19^th^ 1755.

D^r^ Br^r^

As Time would not permit me to be so particular as I could have wished in a Letter that I writ to you last month I will endeavour to make up the Deficiency of that by the particularity of this which will shew you what part I have acted since the late Transactions of the French on this Continent have engaged the Attention of our Mother Country. What Steps Governor Dinwiddie took towards the End of the year 1753 on being advertised that the French had setled at several places on the Banks of the Ohio & the Streams thereinto flowing you

are acquainted with as much as myself, wherefore my Account Letter Bk. II.
shall commence in Ianuary 1754 at which time the Assembly p. 70
of Virg[a] were prevailed on to grant £10000 Curr[cy] toward
defending their Frontiers against the Enemy who had lately
invaded them, at the same time I thought it my Duty to con-
vene the Assembly of this Province & sollicit their Assistance
& Aid for the Virginians who at that time talked of pro-
ceeding immediately to Action: Fruitless was my first Attempt
& I was necessitated to prorogue them without obtaining even
a small Sum for a present to the Indians unless on such Terms
as His Ldp's Instructions particularly forbad me to accept.
April 10[th] Gover[r] Dinwiddie writ me notice that in Obedience
to his Directions a Company consisting of about 80 Men com-
manded by one Capt. Trent was at that time employed at the
Forks of Monongahela in providing Materials & building a
Fort; that a Detachment of 150 Men were marched from
Alexandria under Lieut. Col[o] Washington toward the Fort
about to be erected & that the Residue of the Virg[a] Troops
amounting to near the same number commanded by Col[o] Fry
would follow them the next week; that he expected in a very
few Days the Independant Company round from So Carolina
& in a short time those two that were ordered to Virg[a] from
New York, near the End of the same month I received a
Letter from Col[o] Washington dated at Wills-Creek the 24[th]
informing me that he was then at that place with a Detachment
of 150 Men & that he expected Col[o] Fry who was to have the
Chief Command would there join him with an equal Force in
a few Days, the same Letter also advised me that near 1000
French commanded by one Capt Contreceur had fallen down
from Venango (an Indian trading Town about 21 Miles SE of
Lake Erie & near the Head of the Ohio) & on the 17[th] Inst had
summoned Ensign Ward, Capt Trent being from his post, to
surrender the small Fort that was building at the Mouth of p. 71
Monongahela River, which Summons it seems Ward without
firing a Shot or the least hesitation obeyed being terrified at
the Appearance of so numerous an Enemy while the Company
with him did not exceed 30 Men. He was permitted to retire
with all his Men, Arms Ammunition, Working Tools & Pro-
vision, to the English Inhabitants & the Enemy immediately
proceeded to erect a Fort with the Materials Trent had been
collecting & near the Spot on which he had begun to build.
In May I again met the Assembly of this province & repeated
my Sollicitations for Supplies to support the Virginians in the
Expedition they were undertaking but our people would not
as yet see things in their proper light & seemed to think the
Occasion of the present Dispute was who should possess
Lands the Lord knows where by the Determination of which

Letter Bk. II. they would reap no Benefit seeing the Lands were already granted by his Majesty to the Ohio Company. this occasioned another prorogation, only I must observe that I did with difficulty obtain at this time £500. as a present to the Indians who were to meet Commissioners from the several Colonies in July. The next Intelligence that I received was that while Col° Washington was employing his Men in opening a Road from Wills-Creek toward the Ohio a party of his Command had on the 27th of May fallen in with a Detachment of about 30 Men from the French Fort on Ohio under the Command of Ensign Iumonville upon which a Skirmish ensued & Jumonville with 7 or 8 of his Detachment was killed & the rest (excepting 2 or 3) made prisoners & sent to the Governor of Virg[a] the first week in June Col° Fry fell from his horse which occasioned his Death & thereupon Col° Washington succeeded in the chief Command. The 9th of Iuly a Lett[r] was sent me by Col° Innes informing me that he had just
p. 72 reached Winchester in Virginia at the Head of the N Carolina Troops consisting of 150 Men but that they were for want of a Magazine in N Carolina unarmed & that he had also found himself disappointed in his Expectations of having some Arms sent him from Williamsburg to Winchester: On this Representation & at his earnest Request I sent immediately to Winchester 150 Stand of Arms for the use of the Companies under his Command. About the middle of Iuly we received the News of Col° Washington's Defeat on the 3[d] Inst by about 700 (as it now appears) of the French Troops that were sent out (as soon as an account of Iumonville's Misfortune reached the french Fort) under the Command of Capt Villier & another Commissioned Officer to attack the English Troops whereever they could find them. Some Acco[ts] of this unhappy Engagement & the Dishonourable Capitulation that was the Consequence of it you have long since seen; I believe Washington & the Officers under his Command when they received Intelligence of the Enemy's Approach some Days before the Battle, would have taken very different measures from w[t] they did if there had been no Pique or Disagreement concerning Rank between the Virginia Officers & those of the Independant Companies commanded by Capt. Mackoy. On being informed of the Enemy's near Approach they retired to a little useless kind of Intrenchment in a Valey between two Eminences where the Independant Company posted themselves in the Ditch the Virginians being drawn up in Order within. The French came in Sight about noon & immediately took possession of one of the Eminences where every Soldier found a large Tree for his Shelter from the fire of the English & placing himself behind it fired away on the Troops beneath as fast as he could load,

this continued some time & more than 30 of the English fell Letter Bk. II.
thereby but towards Evening Capt Villier who commanded the
French finding that the Fire on the part of the French dimin- p. 73
ished & became less frequent began to suspect that their
Ammunition was near spent (for they had only a Handfull of
Ball each & powder in proportion distributed to them when
they were sent from the Fort) ordered a Parley to be beat, not
induced thereto as was asserted by the great Loss his Men
had suffered for on their side only one Cadet & 2 private
Soldiers had been killed, but their Officer being apprehensive
as I observed on Account of his Ammunition his provision of
Victuals being also inconsiderable & finding the Troops that
he commanded for the most part raw & undiciplined would
not be easily prevailed on to forsake their Trees & storm the
Intrenchment thought proper to offer Terms rather than run
any Risks not doubting but the English would in their
miserable situation & not sensible what were his fears &
Apprehensions gratefully accept any Conditions that he should
be pleased to offer in which Opinion he was not indeed at all
mistaken. The Day after signing the Capitulation M^r^ Wash-
ington retreated with the English that survived to Wills-Creek
& shortly after descended to Alexandria a Town in Virg^a^
situate on the navigable water of Potowmack. The 17^th^ of
July I once more met our Assembly & apprizing them of what
had happened pressed them to grant immediate Supplies for
the Service. The Consternation that Washington's Defeat had
occasioned inclined many of them to grant a Sum of Money at
this time in any manner that the Gov^t^ should think proper but
some of the Leading Patriots as they stile themselves contrived
to insert some Clauses in the Bill which were by no means
agreeable & which it was scarcely consonant with his Ldp's
Instructions for me to pass; however I was prevailed on by
the Council to accept £6000 on the Terms it was offered but
from some late Instructions That I have received I am a little
apprehensive the Substance of the Bill is not very acceptable p. 74
to his Ldp. What my Lord objects to are two Clauses which
appropriate the moneys arising from Lycencing Ordinaries &
Pedlars to the use of his Majesty on this Occasion. As M^r^
Calvert tells me he has taken Brother Iohns Opinion with
respect to the property of the money arising from such Lycences
(which his Ldp claims by prerogative) I conceive I need not
be particular in acquainting you how those Matters which have
been long a Bone of Contention, are circumstanced presuming
that M^r^ Calvert submitted to you the State of those contro-
verted articles which I find he had received from me when He
desired your Opinion thereon. When our Assembly had
granted the £6000 above mentioned I advised Gov^r^ Dinwiddie

Letter Bk. II. thereof & the money being left to my Disposal desired his Directions how it should be expended for His Majesty's Service at the same time hinting to him the Expediency & necessity of laying in a proper quantity of Provisions which had been shamefully procured furnished & managed by his Commissary M^r^ Carlile in answer to my Letter he desired I would raise a Company of 100 Men with the utmost Expedition & send them to join the Forces from N Carolina & Virg^a^ & the 3 Independant Companies (which together would make a Body he said of 1100 Men) at Wills Creek in Sept^r^ Accordingly I proceeded to form a Company cloath & accoutre them, having ordered Col^o^ Cresap who lives in Maryland about 15 Miles from Wills Creek to purchase & instantly lay in at his house on Acco^t^ of this province provision of Meat & Flour enough for at least 100 Men during a twelve month, which Orders of mine were punctually obeyed. The Latter End of Sept^r^ the first Division of the Maryland Company marched for Wills-Creek & the Officers received my urgent Orders to compleat the Company with the utmost Dispatch & muster at Colo.
p. 75 Cresap's. At the same time I received a Letter from Col^o^ Washington at Alexandria wherein he acquainted me that he was in hourly Expectation of Money & Orders from Gov^r^ Dinwiddie to conduct the Virg^a^ Troops & join the Independants who then rendezvoused at Wills Creek but before many Days had elapsed I was informed by Gov^r^ Dinwiddie himself that he had just then been obliged to prorogue the Assembly of that province because they would not grant a Sum of Money for the Service in such a manner as he could concur with. this Circumstance says he has made me give over all thoughts of acting this Fall especially as the Virg^a^ Troops by their Defeat Deaths & Desertions are now reduced to 150 & the N Carolina Forces have all disbanded themselves which was occasioned by a monstrous Management of them from the Beginning. They raised £12000 procla. Money. The president of that Colony gave the private Men 3/ a Day & the Officers in proportion so that their Money was wholly expended before they joined the other Forces & w^d^ serve no longer without assurance of the above pay under these great Disappointments I determine to keep the few people we have in pay & propose 100 of them to march to Wills Creek to join the Independant Companies & to endeavour to secure a pass over the Alegany Mountains by erecting a Fort & leaving a sufficient number of Men therein with a proper Quantity of provisions to facilitate our Operations next Spring which is all I think possible to be done now. In October Governor Dobbs arrived as I before informed you & while I was at Williamsburg the Assembly of that Gov^t^ granted £20000 more for the

Service which however will not be all raised till that time Letter Bk. II.
twelvemonth. Gover[r] Dinwiddie had also received £10000 from
England with Liberty to draw Bills for as much more out of
which he promised to remit all his Officers money immediately
to go Recruiting & flattered himself with hopes of being p. 76
able to Muster 500 or 600 Men in Virg[a] in a month or 6
weeks from that time. Upon my Return to Annapolis I
called a new Assembly to meet the 10[th] of Decem[r] with
sanguine hopes of finding them well disposed to grant suffi-
cient Supplies & in the intervening time I paid a Visit to
the Independant Companies who were encamped & building
themselves a kind of Fort & Barracks at Wills-Creek.
On my way I called at Alexandria where the Virginians were
quartered & to my Concern found that a very trifling Sum of
Money had been sent thither of which 6 or 8 Officers were to
have a Dividend & disperse themselves into the Country to com-
pleat their respective Companies. Being well assured from
Experience that little Success could be expected from their
Endeavours unless they were more liberally supplied with
Money I advanced them 98 pistoles & gave one of them
Liberty to draw on me for more money in proportion to his
Success which I expected Governor Dinwiddie would repay
me out of the Virg[a] Fund. how little my first Visit to Wills
Creek encreased my hopes of being able to succeed in any
Attempt on the Enemy or to execute my Commission with any
Reputation I before hinted to you, scarce a Morsel of Pro-
vision was laid in but what I had ordered Cresap to provide,
indeed so great was the Scarcety of Flour at the Camp when
I arrived there that unless I had given Cresap Orders to
supply the Independant Companies from his Store they must
actually have deserted the Fort they had built in a Day or two
for want of Bread & I suppose you will not entertain a very
high Opinion of the Troops that I was to command when I tell
you that out of one of the Independant Companies only S[r]
Iohn S[t] Clair on reveiwing them has discharged more than 40
as unfit for Service. At my Return I acquainted Governor
Dinwiddie with the State of those Affairs & desired him to
take some measures to recover if possible the publick Credit p. 77
which was sunk to the lowest Ebb, by the Inability or negli-
gence of the Chief Commissary of Stores & a parcel of Dirty
Fellows that being employed as his Deputies had contracted
Debts with the Country people for a thousand pounds &
upwards without making any payments. I also writ to the Com-
manding Officer of the Virg[a] Troops to prepare to march on a
certain Day for the Camp where they may be employed in
building Store Houses & in any other Services. the 9[th] of
Dec[r] I returned to Annapolis the Assembly mett the Day fol-

Letter Bk. II. lowing & by their professions at the opening of the Session fed me with hopes of large Supplies but when they came to the point a Bill was brought in for £7.000 to raise which the Ordinary Lycences were to be farther mortgaged & that His Ldp's Instructions possitively forbad me to comply with, so our Assembly broke up without giving any more aids than the several northern Colonies to whom I had on the Receipt of his Majesty's Commission addressed myself for Assistance. About this time we were informed by many Letters from England that 2 Regiments were ordered hither from Ireland to be under the Command of a General Officer, that Transports sailed to Ireland to take them aboard in Novem. & that Ordnance Stores were shipping at the Tower & also some of the Train. This Acco^{t} was confirmed to me by Governor Dinwiddie the 2^{d} of Ian^{y} & within a few Days I received a Letter from Sir Tho^{s} Robinson to the same purport. upon this I again set off for the Camp to make some preparations for the Reception of the British Troops at their Arrival in Case the General should choose to march them thither to make an early Campaign; when I had been there about a week superintending that Business I had the pleasure of seeing S^{r} Iohn S^{t} Clair arrive on the
p. 78 same Errand & with the same Design we took our Leave of the Camp the 2^{d} Day afterwards & giving the Commissaries that Gover^{r} Dinwiddie had now appointed proper Directions for laying provision into the Stores that the Men were building we proceeded down Potowmack about 200 Miles & then by Land to Williamsburg in Expectation of meeting the General by that time arrived. being disappointed in such Expectations I was obliged to make the best of my way to Annapolis (reveiwing & discharging many of the Virg^{a} Recruits in my way) where I had appointed the Assembly to meet the 22^{d} of March & once more repeated my Requisitions for farther Supplies, the old Obstacle has again prevented my succeeding & after sitting & disputing a month about his Ldp's prerogative they have given me evident Demonstrations that they never will grant a Shilling without the Compulsion of an Act of parliament unless the Ordinary Lycences be appropriated contrary to his Ldp's positive Instructions & Injunctions; they now stand prorogued to Iuly, but the General will have the several Governors of the Carolinas Virg^{a} Maryland & Pens^{a} meet their respective Assemblies again next Month in which I shall imitate the other Gent^{n} tho I entertain not the least hopes of succeeding. as soon as I was released by the Assembly's prorogation I waited on the General at Alexandria where the two Regiments from Ireland were disembarked & encamped: the 3^{d} of this Inst April the General Commodore Kepple Governor Dinwiddie & the General's Aid de Camp & Secretary

came to Annapolis where Governor Shirley had promised to Letter Bk. II.
meet them to settle the plan of Operations for the Summer but
he not arriving at the time appointed the General & Company
returned again to Alexandria the Monday following & ordered
the Troops to march westward, Colo Halketts Regiment & the
Train thro Virg[a] toward Wills-Creek & Col[o] Dunbar's on this
side potowmack River to the same place. The 11[th] & 12[th]
Inst Governors Shirley, Delancey & Morris came hither & this p. 79
Day Sennight I accompanied them to the General at Alexan-
dria whence having agreed on the plan inclosed we returned
to Annapolis Thursday & those several Gent[n] are now on their
way to their respective Governt. General Braddock departs
from Alexandria to Day & I have promised to be with him
next Tuesday Evening at Frederickton which is 80 Miles west
of this place, there I shall tarry with him till the first of May
when all the Troops will be in motion & when he will proceed
to Wills-Creek & thence towards the Ohio I apprehend the
General (dissatisfied that no such fund is already established)
will sollicit the Ministry to obtain an Act of Parliament whereby
the several Colonies may be compelled to contribute towards a
general Fund or Stock their several quotas in case such an
Act should be moved for I cannot help wishing it might pro-
vide & ordain that the Quota imposed on each province be
proportionable to the number of their Inhabitants respectively,
& perhaps it might be left to the Assembly's Option in what
manner to raise that Quota, but then to prevent useless Dis-
putes & Controversies may not the several Governors &
Councils be impowered to levy the Quota of Money by a poll
Tax in case the several Branches of each Legislature cannot
concur about Ways & Means within a certain limitted time. I
should be very much obliged to you for intimating to me what
Step you think will be taken as to this Affair & in Case there
be a prospect of a Rupture between the two Crowns which we
are apt to think is not improbable, that you will send me early
Intelligence thereof, or of any other Occurrences the Knowl-
edge of which may be useful to &

You will observe in the minutes of the Council which the
General held at Alexandria that it was agreed that in case of the
Reduction of Fort Du Quesne whatever Garrison the General p. 80
should think proper to leave there should be maintained & the
Expence of Additional Works which He should think necessary
to make there, should be defrayed by the Govern[ts] of Virg[a]
Maryland & Pensilvania & that if the General should think it
necessary to build a Fort upon Lake Erie the Expence thereof
& garrisoning it should likewise be defrayed by those three
Govern[ts] these three Colonies being to be at the Expence of
supporting such two forts I conceive it will be thought proper

Letter Bk. II. to establish a Regiment in these Colonies to garrison them as less than a Regiment will not be sufficient for that Service for the Men will expect to be releived some times, in that Case I hope your good Offices will procure me the Command thereof as I have good reason to think neither of the other Governors will be found my Opponents.—

[Sharpe to Braddock.]

May 7. 1755—General Braddock

D^r^ Gen^l^

As I have been most earnestly sollicited & importuned on my Return home thro this place by one M^r^ Lowndes (a person whose Behaviour & Conduct on all Occasions make me very desirous of serving him) to apply to your Excellency & favourably represent his Case I beg leave to trouble you on his Acco^t^ & beg the Discharge of four Servants of his that were enlisted by Lieut^t^ Brereton just as he was leaving Rock Creek. The petitioner has a Ship on the Stocks which these 4 Servants were employed in building & fitting for Sea others of the same Trade cannot be procured, whereby the Vessel must remain unfinished & the Owner receive a prodigious Detriment unless by my Intercession he can be favourably heard by your Excellency & procure the Servant's Discharge I have ventured to give him hopes of succeeding if he can procure as many young & unexceptionable persons to serve & enlist in their Stead this he is endeavouring to do & will I believe be able to accomplish within four or five Days when I will take Care to have them marched to Wills-Creek & shall think myself much obliged if your Excellency will order them to be accepted &
p. 81 the Servants dismissed, or if you please to order them to be discharged immediately which will be doing a greater Kindness. I will take on myself to replace them with an equal number of able men as soon as I can possibly procure & send them up. I have acquainted Capt Orme with the Servants names one of whom is a Convict & as your Excellency intimated an unwillingness to have any Convict Servants at all enlisted into the Regiments I think myself obliged to advise you that M^r^ Brereton has also recruited four other Convicts at this place named Iames Tobin, Cornelius Newhouse, Nich^l^ Stone & W^m^ Beadle, which I believe their former Masters would be glad to recover at the Expence of sending Recruits in their Stead to Wills Creek if you should be pleased to order them to be left there when the Troops march. Col^o^ Cresap who acts as a Magistrate in this province waits on you with this to whom I have desired Capt Orme to communicate your Answer

if y^r^ Excellency should be inclined to grant my Request I hope Letter Bk. II.
he will have the Servants delivered to him that they may be carefully sent hither.

With the greatest Respect & most fervent wishes
for your Success I am Y^r^ Excellencys.

A Letter also was sent to the same purport to Cap^t^ Orme

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] p. 80

May 9^th^ 1755.

D^r^ S^r^

I take this Opportunity of acquainting you that I left the General Capt. Orme & Morris Col^o^ Washington & M^r^ Shirley this Day Sen'net at Swerengen's Ferry on their way to Winchester I suppose they will reach Wills-Creek to morrow. Col^o^ Dunbar's Regiment marched from Frederickton the 29^th^ of April, Col^o^ Halketts & the Virg^a^ Companies had I hear left Winchester some Days before there was a good Deal of Difficulty in procuring a Sufficient number of Waggons to carry the Stores that were sent up on this Side Potowmack p. 81
but they are all at last at Conegogee whence they will be conveyed by Water to Wills-Creek. Inclosed is my Acco^t^ against you; I have not heard any thing from the northward; that you have succeeded to your wishes with your Assembly, I am desirous & impatient to hear, send me early Advice thereof & oblige Your &^c^

[Extract of letter of Calvert to Sharpe.]

13^th^ May 1755

The Cause you mention before the Provincial Court about the time of M^r^ Ogle's Death, the particulars I was not apprized of M^r^ Tasker who presided then under His Lordship's Guardians as chief in the Government notifyed to me Claimants to Talbot mannour which I understood were Heirs who derived their Claim from M^r^ Talbot the first Patentee. It is plain there has been two Forfeitures of the Estate One by Murder, the other by Treason, from the Latter you have a Testification according to Law of Rebellion from the Commissioners of forfeited Estates here, on which Rest His Lordship fixes most proper his Right to the mannour of Talbot & Estate. His Lordship has taken Consideration in relation thereto stated from the Circumstance represented by you contained in your Letter to me the 11^th^ of March last & is hereby pleased to order & direct me to inform you that he does

Letter Bk. II. accept of the proposition & Conditions for the 100 Acres of Land to S[t] Mary Ann Parish in Cæcil County, also of M[r] Baker a Burgess like proposition & Condition to 500 Acres of Land each in the mannour of Talbot on the same Terms that the Rest of the Mannour is leased, you may order the same to be carryed into Execution agreeable to the late Lord's Instructions concerning the same. His Lordship hopes the whole Mannour is not concluded by Grants already made, it has been represented to me 38000 Acres & that of the best Land in the Province in its Situation & Goodness. The Instruction of the late Lords for 99 years Term renewable for ever by Lease on a small Fine, with two Fines payable on every Alienation & one small Quit Rent is poor Conditions for such valuable Land: therefore it is hoped the Remainder will yield some Recompence for the Advantages others have got not quite just but to avoid Contest tho of undoubted Right to My Lord. As to M[r] Thomas's Pretensions for Satisfaction from My Lord it would be right to represent it more particular, my Lord can form no Iudgment as represented—

By M[r] Lloyd's Letter to me the Behaviour of M[r] Tilghman Rent-Roll Keeper of the Eastern Shore is unpardonable. his not issuing the Rent-Roll & Omission not signing the Debt Books he delivers to the Farmers & Receivers whereby they wanting such Requisites having such defective Books cannot distrain or warrant for Rent due for want of sufficient Voucher to offer to the magistrate to justify their Charge, this so My Lord very justly resents, & orders me to acquaint you that you do not fail on the Receipt of this the Dismission of all Employments he holds under him & that you do appoint another proper person in his Stead ordering M[r] Lloyd agent to make Mr Tilghman discharge render His Lordship a fair account.

Original. [Baltimore to Sharpe.]

London May 14[th] 1755

Sir

I very much approve of your conduct in every thing and am so well satisfied as to your Zeal & capacity for the service of his Majesty & myself, that I am under much less uneasiness from the neighbourhood of the enemy than I otherways shou'd be, for I make no doubt that you will use your utmost endeavours to fulfill his Majestys expectations in all things.

M[r] Calverts Letter to you will fully explain my intentions in all my affaires, so that I have nothing farther to add, but that I desire you will see the collection of my Revenue established on the best footing, the completion of w[ch] as I have some time

expected I beg it may no longer be delayed; I am sir your most sincere freind & well wisher

F Baltimore

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 123

May 22. 1755. Annapolis—

My Ld

In the last Letter that I did myself the honour to write to your Ldp I intimated my Intention to wait on the General at Frederickton & shew my Obedience to your Ldp's Requisition by paying His Excellency all possible Respect during his Stay in your Ldp's Province; it being very difficult to get Waggons enough to carry up the Stores & Baggage that were to be conveyed to Wills Creek thro this Govern^{t} The Regiment could not march from Frederickton before the 29th of April & the General did not leave that place till the first of May when I waited on him over Potowmack in the way to Winchester & then took my Leave. I have received a Letter from the Camp since the General & the Troops have been at Wills Creek but it contained no Intelligence at all of the Number of the Enemy at the Fort or any other thing of Importance. I believe the Stores must be e'er this time all carried up & I p. 124 expect they will leave Wills-Creek & march Westward some Day next week. I have not been advised by either of the Governors how nearly the Corps forming in the northern Gov^{ts} are compleated tho I hear the Levies go on briskly & I expect to receive Letters informing me of their Success in Nova Scotia every Day. the Assemblies of Virginia & Pensilvania are now sitting but I have not learnt what is likely to be the Issue of their meeting—I am now to acquaint your Ldp with the Decease of Colo. Plater a Member of your Ldp's Council who had lately the honour to be distinguished by M^{r} Calvert's Commission to him as Secretary. By this Loss another Seat becomes vacant in your Ldps Council, & your Ldp will be also pleased to signify whom your Ldp approves of as his Successor in the other Office. According to your Ldps late Instructions M^{r} Darnall enjoys the Naval Office of Potuxent & M^{r} Graham the Naval Office of Pocomoke & is also Surveyor General of the Eastern Shore, but as M^{r} Young Son of the late Judge of the Land Office has married M^{rs} Graham for whose Benefit M^{r} Charles Graham by your Ldp's Command held these Offices perhaps it may please your Ldp to order the Commissions to M^{r} Young himself which I submit to your Ldp & am &c.

Letter Bk. I. [Sharpe to Calvert.]

22d of May 1755 transmitted by Capt from Virginia.

Sir

More than a month since I had writ you an Account of the Issue of the Assembly's meeting in February last as you will perceive by the inclosed Letters but there having been a prodigious Drought ever since that time that prevented the Planters preparing or packing their Tobo the Ships that should have sailed so long ago are not yet dispatched which obliges me to seize this Opportunity of Conveyance by the way of Virga I waited on the General from Frederickton to Potowmack where he crossed that River in the Road to Winchester the 2d of May, Colo: Dunbar's as well as Colo Halketts Regiment had marched a few Days before for Wills-Creek. They have met with a good Deal of Difficulty in getting the Stores thither on Account of the Scarcety of Waggons in these parts,
p. 125 but that being now executed I expect the General will be moving Westward some Day next week. The Corps under his Command consists of more than 2000 Men viz the two Regiments about 1330. Independant Companies 260. Virginians about 350. Maryland Company 60. N Carolina 80. & the Train. I apprehend a Company or so will be left as a Garrison at Wills Creek under the Command of Colo Innes & the rest will proceed with the General. in less than a Month we expect to hear news from that Quarter & before that time we hope to be advised of some Successes in Nova Scotia. The Assemblies of Virga & Pensilvania are now sitting I have not learnt what they are likely to do, ours will meet again at the Day to which they were prorogued tho I cannot flatter myself with any hopes of Success. I shall transmit a Volume of the Maryland Laws (which will be copied & examined) by a Ship that must sail the 10th of next Month. I am sorry to acquaint you with the Decease of Colo Plater who died after a few Days Illness last Saturday; by this Accident another Seat becomes vacant in his Ldp's Council & there will be a necessity of his Ldp & your appointing some other Gentleman to succeed him as your Deputy in the Province, as you are yourself already acquainted with the names & Characters of many Gentlemen of the Province I will not presume to mention or recommend any Gentleman particularly to that Office. Your Favour dated the 15th of Feby I have received & will answer it more particularly in my next you desire to know why Mr Dulany is not in the Lower House he tells me that finding twould be in vain to stand the Poll for Frederick Cty which he before represented he thought it best to decline it &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 381

[May, 1755?]

D^r^ S^r^

As the Death of Coll Plater has again left a vacancy for a Deputy Secretary I doubt not Applications will be renewed to you for that Commission. I hope e'er this the Lett^rs^ that Col^o^ Plater writ together with mine dated in March have reached you. I have sounded Col^o^ Tasker & find he would not be p. 382 willing to accept the Office on worse terms than Coll Plater offered; finding that to be his Determination I took the Liberty to sound M^r^ Thomas on the same Affair who I find would not be averse to making you a more reasonable & handsome Consideration in case you should think proper to honour him with a Commission to act as your Deputy here. He shewed me a Lett^r^ he received from you some time since which I beleive makes him entertain some hopes of being distinguished with some Mark of Favour. He is generally well esteemed & does not want Abilities but having a very bad Constitution is a little melancholly & frequently indisposed for a long time together so as to be unable to come to Annapolis. He resides on a Plantation near Arundel Mannour about 12 Miles from Town & has a Family of Seven Children four of whom are married & dispersed abroad thro the Province. In case I find there is any Necessity for appointing a Deputy Secretary before I can be favoured with your answer I shall nominate Doctor Steuart who will officiate gratis & resign whenever I please. M^r^ Young who has married M^rs^ Graham has been with me desiring the Commissions for the Naval Office of Pocomoke & Surveyorship General of the Eastern Shore may be made out to him instead of M^r^ Cha: Graham. I wait His Ldp's & Your Orders for my Govern^t^ as to that Matter. You were pleased a year since to acquaint me that one M^r^ Phil Young of Calvert County had addressed himself to you for favour as his general Character here did not recommend him much to my notice & as I heard he had again made Interest enough to procure a Ship, I took no farther notice thereof, but as you have been pleased to favour him with a particular Recommendation for Preferment I think myself obliged to intimate to you that he is not much esteemed here, that having been formerly employed in the Character of Master of a Ship he some how displeased his Employers so that they discontinued him whereby he is reduced it is imagined to some Difficulties having little fortune p. 383 & knowing not how to employ himself: there being no place vacant at present He can receive no Detriment from my Delay till I receive your answer how I should provide for him which I shall readily comply with as I shall take infinite pleasure in doing with whatever Commands you shall be pleased to signify to &c.

Original. [Braddock to Sharpe.]

S^r^

As I propose soon to begin my march for Fort Du Quesne I am desirous of adjusting every future contingency in such a manner as to avoid any mistake or misunderstanding. If I take the Fort in its present condition I shall make additions to it as I shall judge necessary & shall leave the Guns Ammunition & Stores belonging to the Fort with a Garrison of Virginia & Maryland forces But should they as I have reason to apprehend they should abandon & destroy the Fortification with its Guns &c I will repair or construct some place of defence & leave a Garrison as before But as to the Artillery ammunition Stores Provisions &c they must be immediatly supply'd by the Government of Virginia Maryland & Pensilvania seperatly or Iointly according to the agreement made at Alexandria And that I may not by delays in yours or the other Governments be detain'd so long as to frustrate any other designs for this year I must beg that you will have all these things in readiness to be forwarded to the Fort escorted by your Militia A proper quantity of Flower & Meal should be preparing as these in every scituation must be requird & if care is not taken to send these convoys the men must starve & his Majesty's Arms be dishonour'd (should they prove successful) & the expences & Trouble which his regard for the Colonies have engag'd him in renderd useless. Some Indians lately arriv'd from the French fort mention a bravado of the French & their Indians that they propose when the troops are far advanc'd to fall upon this back country & destroy the inhabitants Make what use or give credit to this intelligence as you please However it may not be amiss to take all possible precautions as I find impracticable to take my Chariot with me if you will send for it & the Harness for the six Horses I shall be much oblig'd to you & you will make use of it till I want it I shall be still more so as I am sure it will be less damag'd by good usage than by lying still it will also save you the trouble of sending for another to England as it shall be at your service at your own price when I leave this part of the World let your serv^ts^ take care of the harness & have it oild if you dont use it I shall leave directions to Coll: Innes to deliver Chariot Harness spare axle trees & pole to your order I am

S^r^
Your most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant
E Braddock

Fort Cumberland
May 22^d^ 1755.
Gov^r^ Sharpe

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.] Letter Bk. II. p. 81

May 24th 1755.

Dr Brother

In my last dated the 19th of April of which I have now sent Br Wm a Copy I acquainted you that I was about to depart for Frederick to wait on the General & do any Services in my power during his Stay there & thence accompany him to Virga It being very difficult to procure Waggons in this part of the world to convey the Stores & Baggage The Regiment that was at Frederickton could not move thence till the 29th of April & the General tarried behind till the first of May when I waited on him over Potowmack & took my leave. As the Inhabitants did not shew more forwardness here than in Virga to serve the Troops with their Waggons & Horses they were obliged to impress & take all they could find which the people not duly considering the necessity of such a proceeding heavily complain against especially as they cannot get payment for their Service & Attendance by reason our Assembly would not give or appropriate a small Sum of Money to that & similar uses tho it was so particularly enjoyned them by Sr Thos Robinson's last Letter. As the Burthen has fallen upon a few comparatively I am afraid the Assembly will never releive them tho I doubt not they will speak very pathetically when they meet of the hardships the few have been subjected to by means of the Obstinacy of the many. The Regiments since their Arrival p. 82 have been increased by about 200 Voluntiers from this Province but the General still finding the Regiments incomplete gave Orders for Recruiting Servants, this I in vain endeavoured to persuade him off from, representing the Mischief & Detriment that the Inhabitants must suffer from such a measure; the Servants immediately flocked in to enlist, Convicts not excepted, & their Masters made innumerable Applications to me for Releif which I was sorry to be unable to grant. here I found myself in difficult Circumstances. Many of the People's Cases really called for Pity & Redress as the Planters Fortunes here consist in the number of their Servants (who are purchased at high Rates) much as the Estates of an English Farmer do in the Multitude of Cattle. The General on his part I saw positive because he thought himself too weakly provided with Troops for what he has hopes of executing. As I have endeavoured so I hope I have behaved in such a manner as to give no Offence to either the General or the Province but I confess I shall not be surprized if the Officers at their Return (if it shall so happen) do not meet with the kindest Reception among the Inhabitants. I have received a Letter from the Camp since the General & the Troops have been at Wills-

Letter Bk. II. Creek but it contained no Intelligence at all of the Number of the Enemy at the Fort or any thing of the last Importance. I beleive the Stores must be by this all carried up & I expect they will leave Wills-Creek & march westward some Day next week. I have not been advised by either of the Governors how nearly the Corps forming in the northern Govern^{ts} are compleated tho I hear the Levies go on briskly & expect to receive Letters informing me of their Success in Nova Scotia every Day. I am very sorry to find that M^{r} Bladen interferes so much at home & has had influence enough to persuade My Lord to discountenance both M^{r} Calverts & my Recommenda-
p. 83 tion of a Person to succeed M^{r} Iennings as Deputy Secretary: the Genl^{a} one M^{r} Plater who was nominated by M^{r} Calvert when he found he could not support his first Recommendation died a few Days since whereby the Office is again vacated, so I doubt not there will be again great Struggles for Succession at home, it being one of the Offices which I am not sufficiently impowered to dispose of here. As I cannot well concern myself about this matter without Danger of giving Offence & have in some sort failed already I will leave the Opponents to make out their own Pretensions but am afraid M^{r} Calvert will be thereby subjected to some Difficulties &c

[Sharpe to Braddock.]

Annapolis May 28th 1755—

Sr.

Your Favour of the 22^{d} Inst. I have just now received & beg leave to assure you that no Endeavours shall be wanting to engage the Assembly in some sort to perform their Duty by granting Supplies for the purposes you mention. There are 20 Four Pounders in Virg^{a} which were sent in for the Govern^{ts} Service last Summer & we have 4 six pounders in this Province which I imagine will be sufficient in case the Enemy should destroy or render useless those that they have now in their Fort & I shall take care to convey them up on the first notice. Did I find myself impowered I would not lose a moment to lay in a quantity of Provision but as the power of granting Money for such uses rests in the Representatives of the people in Assembly I can promise nothing more as to that matter than that I will attempt to make them sensible of the necessity of granting such Supplies from the fatal Consequences that may attend their neglect. In case I succeed with them I hope I shall find no great Difficulty in convoying the Provisions to Fort Cumberland but I apprehend t'will not be so easy a matter to get the Militia to march much farther tho if we have provisions to

convoy I will not despair of that also. Your kind Intelligence of the Enemies Design to insult our distant Inhabitants will I hope influence our people to be on their Guard against such Invaders & may perhaps be made some Use of by myself. I shall take Care to get the Chariot hither & secure it till you may have Occasion for it again or whenever you please shall be ready to receive it at your own Price. Capt Orme has been so kind as to intimate to me your Inclination to oblige me by ordering the Discharge of the four men concerning whom I took the Liberty to address you Col° Cresap has Orders to repay the Bounty money which I find is expected with an equal number of men who shall be marched up without Delay. Letter Bk. II. p. 84

I am &c.

[Calvert to Sharpe.] Original.

London May 29th 1755.

Sir

I have a particular request made to me by a friend of mine whom I esteem much, it is in behalf of Mr Saml Massy In Queen Ann's County the favour Desired for him is an Appointment for his being a Sheriff of a County, as I am asured he can sufficiently give security for his honest discharge of such a Trust I beg leave to Recommend him to your favour & kind office of friendship therein; the Obligation will be valued by him, who is with all Respect yr

obliged hble Servt
Cæcils Calvert

[Bradstreet to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

I think it my Duty to give you the Earliest Notice that in my way to this place Colo. Johnson and I examin'd a french man who deserted from Canada with his Wife, who inform'd us that the French had actually sent nine Hundred and fifty Men to the Ohio in four Detachments the last of which he saw at Cataraque and they pass'd this place about the time he expected and that on my Arrival here the 27th Instant I made it part of my business to Examin into the truth of it from Indians who are constantly coming here from all quarters who agree intirely with his Account, since which the movements and Activity of the French makes it still more necessary I should loose no time in leting you know what has pass'd and the Accounts I have, Vizt That on the 25th of this Month twelve Battoos pass'd this place with Men and Provisions, the 27th Eleven, and this day Eleven, which latter had on board nine small Cannon, and they

carry one with the other Ten Men, and I am well inform'd there are more men preparing to set out from Cataraque and others daily expected from Mountreal there, and the French are useing all their power & Artifice to get as many Indians with them to oppose General Braddock as they possibly can, and Openly declare to the Indians they will send the whole force of Canada but they will carry their Point. I must also inform you there are many Indians here and Numbers are daily expected and they appear to be very attentive to the proceedings between the French and us, and that I conceive there never was a time when the giving Provisions to such as are in real want and well chosen presents to the Principal People than at this time and that great good might, and I believe would result from it. I have sent an Express with these accounts this day to the General across the Country, and have wrote to the several Governors from New York to Virginia also.

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
In Bradstreet

Oswego
29 May 1755.

The Hon^{ble} Gov^{r} Sharp

Letter Bk. II. p. 84

[Sharpe to Braddock.]

Iune 4th

S^{r}

On the Receipt of Capt Orme's Letter signifying your pleasure concerning the payment of the Maryland Company I have given M^{r} Hopkins Instructions to pay them in the same manner as the Virginians are paid which was what I intended to have done when Capt Dagworthy was directed to stop something from their former Allowance which was more than the Virginians received. I presume Governor Delancey has sent you Advice that a Body of about 300 french & some Indians passed in 30 Battoes by Oswego, the 13th of May as it was supposed towards the Ohio. I have inclosed your Excellency the last papers that we have received from England. The young Gent^{n} who presents this is one of whose Desire to serve under your Command & Inclination to purchase in case any Gent^{n} should hereafter obtain your permission to sell
p. 85 his Commission I took the Liberty to speak, He at present begs leave to make the Campaign as a Voluntier in hopes of being able to approve himself worthy of favour. Any shewn him would much oblige Y^{rs} &c

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] Letter Bk. II.

Annapolis Iune 8th 1755.

Dr Sr

Your Favour of the 2d is just delivered me, & a few Days since I received also a Letter from the General of which I inclose you a Copy; upon the Receipt of a Duplicate thereof Govr Morris has summoned the Assembly of that Province to meet again the 13th Inst. tho he seems to entertain as small hopes from such a Proceedure as I do of procuring Supplies by the Application that I am about to make to our People the 23d You intimate that the General thinks of drawing all the Troops from Fort Cumberland & leaving it to these Provinces to replace them with others or with their Militia I wish I may be able to contribute to the doing either, but indeed I am afraid if the Obstinacy of the Assembly forces me to make the Trial I shall find our Militia Law even more defective than yours. however I have sent peremptory Orders to the Officers to muster & dicipline their respective Companies after their manner & have also issued a Proclamation notifying to the Back Inhabitants what they may expect, & cautioning them to be on their Guard & prepare for their mutual Defence in case of any Attack or Alarm. Pray what Carriage Guns have you to send to Fort Du Quesne if wanted? Some Arms & Ammunition I may perhaps be able to afford be the Determination of our Gentlemen what it will, but as more than the £6000 granted last summer is already expended, nothing remains to purchase Provisions with or to raise any more men for the necessary purposes for which they are required. I have signified to the General what Satisfaction 'twould give me to be p. 86 enabled to comply with his Requisitions but at the same time hinted to him my Apprehensions that it will not be put in my power. from hence I think you will collect that we shall not want any addition to be made to the 57 suits of Cloaths which were received of Mr Carlile. The promoters thereof met with so many Obstructions & Obstacles in the way of the Subscription that it has been entirely dropt. I am surprized you had not received my last Letter which should have acquainted you when I left the General. I learn that a Detachment of 600 marched the 28th of May under the Command of Sr Iohn to open a Road & throw a Bridge over George Creek a Stream that flows into Potowmack at about 10 miles Distance from Wills Creek. The General with the Rest of the Forces have I imagine or will follow them to morrow. The Commandant at Oswego sends advice that 300 French & some Indians in 30 large Battoes passed by that place for the Ohio the 13th of May & that 'twas said & expected more would immediately follow.

Letter Bk. II. I have sent you a Copy of the Deposition of a Frenchman who with his wife is just come down to inhabit in the Province of N York. Governor Shirley's Regiment was to embark the 29th ult. at Providence for Albany; Pepperels was not then more than half compleat, which has induced Governor Shirley to get the Destination of the Iersey Troops enlarged they will be now employed under his Command against Niagara. I know not whether the Provincial Troops are compleated or at what time they will be in motion. Some hundred Men are at work I am told at N York about their Fortifications which when finished will it is said render that City pretty defensible. Succeed to your wishes, & Enjoy as perfect health as does at present Your &c.

p. 87 [Sharpe to Morris.]

Iune 9th

Sr

Your Letters dated the 29th of May & 2d of Iune I have received & also one from General Braddock much to the same purport with that of which you sent me a Copy. A Duplicate was also sent to Govr Dinwiddie which was laid before the Virginia Assembly that was then sitting & he tells me they have thereupon granted £6000. for the uses & Services for which the General sollicits Supplies if these Governts only follow the Example I hope we shall find no Difficulty in complying with his Excellency's Desire & Requisition, if they should be averse to making such a Provision I know not what can be done but this is certain that the Leaving any Troops at Fort du Quesne without a Sufficiency of military Stores & Provisions must be attended with the worst Consequences, & these Provinces will I doubt severely feel the Effects of it rather than such an Event should happen if we had provisions I would make a Trial whether our Militia could not be taken out to Escort & convoy them thither; I flatter myself your Assembly will not refuse to furnish some Supplies of that Sort & then whatever be the Issue of our Gentlemen's Meeting; a few Cannon some Arms & Ammunition shall be sent from this place. I have writ to Virga for Governor Dinwiddie's Opinion hereon & to know by what means he would have us contribute to the Service in case we cannot succeed so far as to obtain the Supplies now asked for such important purposes. I really think the French & their Indians will execute their Threats against the Back Inhabitants in hopes thereby to retard or recall the Forces that are marched under the Command of General Braddock. I have notified that piece of Intelligence to our distant Inhabitants & cautioned & exhorted them by a

proclamation to be on their Guard & unite for their mutual Defence &c

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 125

Iune 10th 1755 transmitted by Capt Smith—

Sir

In my Letter dated the 22d of May of which I now transmit a Duplicate I acknowledged the Receipt of your favour by Mr Thornton dated the 15th of Feby the Reason why he is not inducted to any Living in Obedience to his Ldps Instructions you will be pleased to see in a Copy of part of a Letter transmitted long since to which I request the favour of an Answer. p. 126 I have had the pleasure also to receive yours of the 17th of March by Mr Gallaway, you therein intimate the Miscarriage of a Letter of mine transmitted by Capt Coolidge's Ship which I am much surprized at because it was delivered to the Care of Mr Chamier who went passenger & is esteemed a very punctual & careful person, it was dated the 19th of Decr & was writ to acquaint you what was doing here just at that time only, however I have herewith inclosed a Copy. Your Letter to Col. Lloyd I sent to him & as I presume he sent Letters of Advice by Capt Allen who sailed in Jany I hope you are long e'er this satisfied as to the Money Matters You mention & I am glad to find there is so fair a prospect of our having the Salt Act carried next Session of Parliament & you may be assured I will not fail to let the Gentn of the Province know how much they are already endebted to his Ldp's & your Assiduity & Care with respect to that Affair. It gives me the greatest Satisfaction to learn that my Letters concerning the publick Transactions on this Continent are well received by the Ministry as well as his Ldp. I do not know that I let slip any Opportunity of sending Intelligence as soon as I have Grounds for beleiving it true, tho it is possible news may often be more speedily & frequently transmitted from Virga & the Northern Colonies on Account of their frequent Intercourse with Europe but indeed I am apt to think that it is not unusual for people to write news hence as well as they do from London hither before they are assured they are not falsifying. I am much obliged to you for intimating to me what is transacting & expected at home & will now in my Turn send you a short Accot of what is doing & may be expected to be executed here. The plan of Operations that was concerted at Belhaven I hope you will very shortly know however lest my last Letters should miscarry I have inclosed with Duplicates of them Copies also of the Minutes of Council & the plan there proposed to be pursued. I hear Sr Wm Pepperell has not been

Letter Bk. I. p. 127 able yet to raise more than half his Complement; for which Cause Gov. Shirley has prevailed on the Jersey Gov[t] to let their 500 Men be employed under his Command against Niagara. It is expected that by this time Shirley's Regiment as well as Pepperells are at New York & ready to march several Companies of them are already gone to Oswego; by which place 300 French & many Indians in 30 large Battoes were seen by the Garrison to pass toward the Ohio the 13[th] of May 600 Men marched from Fort Cumberland westward the 28[th] of May to secure passage as I conceive & fling a Bridge over Georges Creek (a Stream that flows into Potowmack about 12 Miles above Fort Cumberland) where perhaps they may raise some Sort of Work lest the Enemy should act offensively I apprehend the General with the Rest of the Troops must be leaving Wills Creek or Fort Cumberland about this time. Their Recruiting parties have met with great Success lately so that they do not I beleive number at this time less than 2500 Men. You will see by a Copy of a Letter which I have lately received from the General what his Expectations & Requisitions from this Province are which indeed I think very reasonable but am afraid I shall find the Assembly of different Sentiments, at least that we shall be as dissonant as ever when we talk of the Mode of giving even so small a Sum. The Assembly by the Advice of His Ldp's Council will meet the 23[d] Inst. & I shall not be much surprized if some of them express a Dissatisfaction at the Behaviour of the Troops before they left this province & mutter at their Enlisting & taking away a good many Servants from the Inhabitants of Frederick, Prince Georges & Baltimore Counties, as well as impressing their Carriages & Horses. I wish I may be able to prevail on the Lower House to relieve such of the people as have suffered thereby, but I am doubtfull their Number is not considerable enough to influence or weigh with the Assembly who too seldom regard things which do not immediately affect themselves The Pensilvania Assembly broke up last Month without doing
p. 128 any thing but resolving that they will on no account recede from the points they have insisted on, or give a Shilling more unless they are indulged in their own ways. Gov[r] Morris informs me that on the Receipt of a Letter from General Braddock very similar to mine he has convened them again the 13[th] Inst but does not entertain any great hopes of Success. I learn that the Virginians have granted £6000 for the purposes mentioned in the General's Letter. I do not understand by what means or Scheme it is to be raised but it is said that on Acco[t] of the Scarcety of Money in that Gov[t] it is proposed to be raised by a Lottery. I am inclined to think the Threats of the French & their Indians to fall on the Back Inhabitants in

hopes thereby to retard the General's Progress & recall him Letter Bk. I.
to our Defence will prove something more than a Bravado &
have issued a proclamation cautioning the Back Inhabitants to
be on their Guard & prepared to defend themselves & each
other against such Hostilities, & have also sent peremptory
Orders to the Officers of the Militia to muster & dicipline the
Men under their Command, but Alass, we want a Militia Act
similar to those of the Northern Governments without which I
fear very little Dependance is to be had on our Men in Cases
of Emergency & Danger. The inclosed petitions for the
Remission of Forfeitures to His Ldp I am intreated to trans-
mit. Mr Bell was a Man of some Fortune & well esteemed in
the Country, but Accidents have reduced him in his Circum-
stances, & at the time he forfeited his Recognizance he dared
not appear to seek for or bring the Offender who had been a
Labourer of his to the Court for fear of being arrested himself,
having not at that time compromised Matters with his
Creditors. Iohn Gibson the other Security is recommended
as an Object worthy his Ldp's Clemency for the Reasons
offered in his petition which with the other I submit to his
Ldp's pleasure. The account of the Gross amount of Fees to
the Commissarie's Office for one year which is herein trans-
mitted was presented me a few Days since by Mr Dulany who p. 129
with Mr Tasker had been speaking thereon to me before.
they tell me the vast Difference & Disparity between this &
the Estimate that the Clerk of the Office delivered me last
year when Mr Tasker was sole Commissary is owing to the
Clerks Error & Mistake at that time who included in the Gross
Amount of every year the Insolvencies of the preceeding year,
which are always sent to the Sheriff in hopes that he may then
be able to recover some of the Debts that were returned
insolvent the preceeding year. Mr Dulany told me that finding
his Duty in & Attendance to that Office clashed sometimes &
interrupted him a great Deal in the performance & pursuit of
his private Business as a Lawyer, he beged leave to Resign
assuring me at the same time that I should always find him
ready to serve His Ldp or myself with his Advice or other-
wise, at my Desire he continues his Commission till I receive
his Lordship's & your Instructions & Directions thereon—

[Sharpe to Braddock.] Letter Bk. II. p. 88

Annapolis 11th June 1755.

Sir

I am sorry to find myself obliged to address you at this time
by the numerous Applications that have been made by the

Letter Bk. II. Inhabitants of this Province for Releif against Kennedy Ferrol of Frederickton who presuming on the favour you had shewn him by an Appointment to preside over the waggoners has biddin Defiance to his Creditors & any civil power to which they could recur for Redress. The Effects that should have been left to satisfy in part his just Debts he forceably carried off impressing a waggon for that purpose under pretence of its being for his Majestys Service. Such his Behaviour & extravagant Insolencies at his Departure upon the Assurance of finding a Protection by following the Camp obliges me to request you not to countenance him in such proceedings, for that I am under a necessity of issuing a warrant to all the civil Officers in this Gov^{t} to seize him whereever he shall be found & force him to make his appearance in one of the Judicial Courts

[Sharpe to Halifax.]

Iune 11. 1755.

My Ld

I assume the honour of acknowledging the Receipt of your Ldp's Lett^{r} dated in Nov. last which I had the pleasure & satisfaction to receive by General Braddock I flatter myself that he is convinced I have let slip no opportunity of paying due Respect to himself since his arrival in America & I hope your Ldp will not hesitate to beleive that I have left no stone unturned to enable him to succeed in the important Service to which His Majesty out of his paternal Care for these Colonies has appointed him; but My Lord I am exceedingly sorry at
p. 89 being obliged to acquaint you that my Endeavours to obtain such Supplies as the present State of Affairs requires & as are requisite to render effectual the great purposes in hand have hitherto wanted a happy Effect, & that the several Motives of Duty & Gratitude to his Majesty & their Mother Country so justly due, or a proper Regard for their own preservation which I have frequently urged to them in hopes of encouraging & animating them thereby to exert themselves at this important Juncture have hitherto failed of their desired Effect. I shall again meet the Assembly of this Province the 23^{d} Inst. & endeavour to persuade them to contribute at least to the Support of the Garrison that the General shall think proper to leave at Fort Du Quesne to prevent future Incroachments & Usurpations; for declining this I think they cannot pretend to offer an Excuse tho the Experience I have already had forbids me to indulge very sanguine Expectations of their Compliance even so far; Whatever be my Success therein I hope your Lordship will think nothing shall be wanting on my part & that I will most chearfully embrace every Opportunity of

shewing my Duty & the most punctual Obedience to His Letter Bk. II.
Majestys & your Ldp's Commands, & as much as my Ability will enable me, cooperate with & assist General Braddock in every thing he shall think necessary for his Majesty's Service. I had lately the pleasure of seeing at Annapolis M^r^ Pownall by whom I was favoured with another Lett^r^ from your Ldp, I received the greatest pleasure from shewing him every mark of Esteem & Regard during his Stay here as I shall always be most ready & desirous to do to every Gent^n^ who may have been favoured with your Ldp's notice—

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.] p. 90

June 12^th^ 1755.

D^r^ B^r^

Inclosed is a Copy of my last Letter, & also of one that I received about a fortnight since from General Braddock, Duplicates of which were at the same time sent to Governor Dinwiddie & M^r^ Morris that to M^r^ Dinwiddie was delivered just as his Assembly was sitting & upon his submitting it to them they have voted £6.000 for the uses for which the General at present sollicits Supplies. Governor Morris acquaints me that the Assembly of that province will meet next Monday on the same account tho from their past Conduct especially at their last meeting about 5 weeks ago he entertains but very faint hopes of finding them better disposed to comply with these the Generals Requisitions. I have called our people together the 23^d^ Inst. intending this once to apply to them to make some provision for the important & most necessary Services mentioned in General Braddocks Letter, this I do more to shew myself equally ready & forward with the Gent^n^ abovementioned to comply with the General's Desire & the Ministry's Letters than with any prospect or hopes of persuading the Assembly to recede from or wave the points that have been the Subject & Occasion of our Dissonance & Controversy & to grant any Aid by such means as I am permitted to hear or concur in. I most heartily wish I may not be obliged to meet our Gen^n^ again upon the same or similar Occasions for I foresee that these Steps & manner of proceeding must inevitably produce a Coldness or Disagreement between the people & myself. I have intimated to the General how unpromising my prospect p. 91
at present is & let him know that he must not entertain any great Expectations from the measures I now take in Compliance with his Request, As to his Desire that I will order the Militia of this Govern^t^ to join with some from Virg^a^ & Escort provisions & Stores to Fort Du Quesne it shews only what an inadequate Idea he has of the Constitution of these Govern^ts^ or

Letter Bk. II. the power of the Governors. for want of such a Militia Law as is in force in the Northern Provinces we can scarcely oblige the people to act in the Defence of themselves & properties when immediately attacked. how then will they obey our Orders to leave their Business & Families to march out of the Province when they have not the least prospect or Expectations of receiving a Reward for their Trouble. I am advised that 600 Men marched from Wills Creek the 28th of May in Order to secure a passage over Georges Creek about 12 Miles beyond Fort Cumberland or Wills Creek I suppose they have thrown a Bridge over it & raised some kind of works for its Defence in Case the Enemy should Act Offensively; I imagine the General marched with the Rest of the Troops last Monday or Tuesday he had about 50 Indians with him & had reason to expect more would join him on his March. I received a Letter lately from New York advising me that 300 French & some Indians passed by Oswego Fort on Lake Ontario the 13th of May & that there is great reason to beleive some other
p. 92 Detachments went from Canada at the same time for the Ohio also by the North Side of the Lake I think that Govern Shirley's & Sr Wm Pepperell's Regiments must have nearly reached Oswego but Pepperell has not been able to get more than half his Complement, wherefore the 500 Jersy Men are to act also under Shirleys Command to make up the Deficiency. When Colo Iohnson will proceed to Action I do not certainly know but I hear the Troops that he is to command are almost compleat—

Calvert Papers. [Calvert to Sharpe.]

London June 12th 1755

Sir

I have yrs of the 10th of April by way of Philadilphia. It concerns His Lordp to understand the Lo: House have shown no regard to His Instructions for Amendment of the Tobacco Law. Obstinacy agt the Superior Lord well-Advised & with Candour lay'd before a Legislative Body to Rectifye real mistake, the Non-Compliance Endangers the Wellfare of a People. Alike is his Concern to know, their unwillingness to grant Aid in Support & Defence Agt the Enemy of their King & Country, & their offers of wrong to his Rights, witht any regard or consideration to him. However, trusts yr rectitude to Abide by His Instructions on Ordinary Licences &c.

By yrs since General Bradocks Arrival in America you have not wanted Company at Annapolis: it seems to a been the General Rendez-Vous It gives My Lord pleasure as it Lus-

ters Honour to the Province, as well as Proffit to the Metropolis. Calvert Papers.
He hopes to hear of Reward for y^r^ Service done by Commission as Lieu^t^ Colonel & Comd^r^ of His Majesty's Forces in America. He wishes all success to the Gen^l^ & Forces. is well pleased that Forces of the Province are Listed into the English Regiments & deem'd of service in Defence of His Majesty's Affairs, & hopes the Province will not be wanting to increase the Residue of Force.

In my last I hint'd a Compl^t^ of M^r^ Stuart Contractor with the Goverm^t^ for transporting Convicts since, he has present'd the Proprietor with a Memorial w^h^ I transmit you, with a Copy of My Letter to him, his Lord^ps^ answer to the request of the Memorial, perhaps it may Quiet the Affair. You have also his Case he stat'd to M^r^ Murray Attor^y^ Gen^l^ concerning. My Lord directs to y^r^ peculiar Care How you let pass Acts of Assembly touching Acts of Parliam^ts^ Y^r^ Notice to M^r^ Ross Clerk to the Upper House is desier'd for his Care after Sessions of Assembly to transmit the Acts.

All's Peaceable here. No acc^t^ of Admiral Boscawen since his departure westw^d^ Nine sail of the French are said return'd into Brest, the rest sail'd West with the Transports & Troops. Men of War by our Admiralty are Comiss^nd^ Daily. Twenty three of the Line at Spit-head. With peculiar Esteem,

Y^r^ Very Hu^ble^ Serv^t^
Cæcil^s^ Calvert.

Pos^t^ His Lord^p^ is surpris'd at M^r^ Lloyds detention of His Money Next Mich^ms^ he'll be two years with^t^ acco^tg^ M^r^ Tasker annually did. Pray remind him it gives uneasyness

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 129

Iune 12^th^ 1755.

My Ld.

The 22^d^ of last month I acquainted your Ldp that the General had reached Fort Cumberland & that I apprehended he would put the Troops in Motion soon after, since that time I have received a Letter from his Excellency of which I have inclosed your Ldp a Copy that will shew what his Expectations are from this province I wish the Behaviour of our Assembly did not give me room to fear his Expectations will be disappointed. The Pensilvania Assembly is already broke up without doing anything but making a Resolve to recede from no point which has already been the Subject of Controversy. Upon the Receipt of a Lett^r^ from General Braddock similar to that directed to myself, Governor Morris has once more summoned that Assembly to meet the 13^th^ Inst. but he expresses p. 130

Letter Bk. I. no very sanguine hopes of finding them better disposed at this time to comply with his Requisitions by contributing Supplies for the Uses for which the General at this time sollicits them. I hear the Virginians have voted £6000 for those purposes but cannot as yet Learn by what Scheme or means the Sum is to be raised tho it is reported that they will think of some kind of Lottery, Money being exceedingly scarce in that Govern^{t} By the Advice of your Ldp's Council I have called our Assembly again the 23^{d} Inst. but as I have already hinted I am not without fears that instead of granting Supplies they will scarcely refrain from muttering against the proceedings of the Troops under General Braddock who have not scrupled to carry off a good many Servants with them from this Province as well as Carriages & Horses I shall be under a necessity of recommending to the Assembly to provide for the Relief of such of the Inhabitants as have suffered thereby but as no more than two or three Counties thro which the Troops marched have been at all affected or injured I doubt the Assembly will not be influenced by the Representations or Petitions of a few to indemnify & give them Redress. I have thought proper to issue a proclamation cautioning the Back Inhabitants to be on their Guard & prepared to defend themselves & each other against the Hostilities they are threatened with & have also sent peremptory Orders to the Officers of the Militia to Muster & Dicipline the Men under their Command & be in Readiness to serve his Majesty & secure their own properties from the destroying hands of the French & their Savage Allies. but Alass for want of a Militia Act similar to those of New York or the Northern Govern^{ts} Little is to be expected from such Defenders or Protectors; & I am much afraid it will exceed both Governor Dinwiddies & my Abilities to prevail on any of them to stir toward Fort Du Quesne or even Cumberland tho the Assemblies should give us provisions & Stores to Escort
p. 131 thither. I am advised that 600 Men marched from Wills-Creek the 28th of May in Order to secure a passage over Georges Creek which flows into Potowmack about 12 Miles above Fort Cumberland I suppose they will throw a Bridge over it & raise some kind of Works for its Defence in Case the Enemy should Act offensively. General Braddock I suppose marched with the Rest of the Troops this morning, he had about 50 Indians with him & had reason to expect more would join him on his March. The Recruiting parties have much filled the Virginia & the other Companies since the General has been at the Camp. but I learn from the Northward that S^{r} W^{m} Pepperells Regiment is not more than half compleat, which has induced Governor Shirley to apply to the Gov^{t} of the Jersies for their 500 Men to be employed against Niagara under his

Command. I have not been informed in what forwardness the other provincial Troops are or when Gov^r^ Shirley & Col. Johnson will proceed to Action, but I have received Intelligence that 300 French & some Indians passed by the English Fort called Oswego on Ontario Lake the 13^th^ of last Month on their way towards the Ohio & there is room to beleive that some other Detachments are sent from Canada to the same place. I have nothing farther at present but shall take every Opportunity of communicating to your Ldp what Intelligence I may receive from the Northward or Westward & also of all Occurrences that shall happen in your Ldp's Govern^t^ I beg leave to present my most respectful Compl^ts^ & to congratulate my Lady & yourself on her Ladyships Recovery which I had the pleasure & Satisfaction to be informed of lately & also to assure your Lordship that I remain with a grateful Sense of your Ldp's favours Y^r^ &c— Letter Bk. I.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Iune 18^th^ 1755

Sir

Yours of the 8^th^ Curr^t^ I rec^d^ from M^r^ Hunter I have from the General a Letter much to the same Purport of what you enclos'd me, & am of opinion if the General succeeds in taking the Fort at the Ohio, that the Charges attending & maintaining it shou'd be paid by Pensylva^a^ Maryland & this Colony; & as our Assembly meets next Tuesday I shall endeavour to get them to provide for that Service & hope you will meet Your Assembly in good Temper to do what is absolutely necessary at this Time.

As Fort Cumberland shou'd be taken Care of, will not your People enable you to raise some men to place in that Fort? & I will raise some for that Service. I have wrote to the County Lieu^ts^ to have their Militia in order, to keep Patrolers on the Frontiers to give proper Alarms in Case the French or Indians shou'd attempt any Invasion among our Settlers in the back Country.

I am preparing to send up ten Carriage Guns with all their Appurtenances to be sent to Fort Cumberland & from thence to the Fort on the Ohio Provisions must be properly supplied & I have wrote to Gov^r^ Morris on that Head, his Letter is enclosed which I beg you to forward by very first opp^ty^ The Delay of our Forces has given the French great opportunity of reinforcing their men on the Ohio; but I am of opinion those they have at the Ohio will be but small to those the Gen^l^ marches with him, so that I do not doubt of Success but the Season of the Year advances.

I thank you for the Deposition of the Frenchman, but I hope the Numbers of the French in Canaday are exagerated. I hope Major Gen^{l} Shirley's Regiment S^{r} W^{m} Pepperill's & the Jersey Forces are on their march to Niagara I shall be glad to hear the Forces destin'd for Crown Point were in readiness to begin their march. I wrote you by M^{r} Graham the 13th to which I want your Answer.

Eleven Officers belonging to three Regiments in Nova Scotia arrived here last Week in order to recruit for their Regiments to compleat them to 1000 men each I accomodated Cap^{t} Floyer & Cap^{t} Stone with Horses to wait on the General for his Commands, & the others come in this Sloop to remain in your Place 'till the above Officers return & I recommend them to your Civility & Friendship; they cou'd have but very poor Chance in recruiting here, & indeed the Distance from this to Nova Scotia to march them this hot Season I think very bad, however no doubt the General will give them his orders. I wish you Health, Felicity & Success with Your Assembly— I remain in Truth—

Your Excellency's
most obed^{t} hble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Pray be so kind as to forw^{d} the enclos'd with all possible Expedit^{n} as M^{r} Tasker's Letter is of great Consequence to them.—

Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Letter Bk. II. p. 92

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Iune 22^{d}

S^{r}

herein you receive my Acco^{ts} made out according to your Desire. The Ballance you will be pleased to remit in Bills of Excha. or Cash as you may find convenient, we value Gold at 17^{s} 6^{d} Stg. an Ounce & our Currency is 60 ℔ C^{t} worse than Stg. Gist's Declaration to me that he had been obliged to expend that money of Montours to purchase provision for the Troops removed in great part the Objection I might otherwise have made to advancing him the money & his Concealing from me when Montour was present what you say he has since asserted concerning Montours being endebted to him gives me the greatest Reason to beleive he deals unfairly & has been guilty of an Embezlement. I before gave you my Reasons for letting Montour have the money at that time & indeed I am still inclined to think his Friendship will prove worth the purchase. You know what induced me to advance

Capt Polson money so readily & I hope you will not condemn Letter Bk. II.
my Conduct therein, tho his Extravagance should render him p. 93
unable to give a Satisfactory Acco^{t} of its Disposal. I observe
by an Acco^{t} that I received from him some time since that the
Expence of raising his Men Victualing them till he reached
Frederickton & their pay to the 23 of March amounts to £35.
13. 10 more than he had then received so that if the Men were
regularly paid I hope he will not be much in Arrears. By our
Act of Assembly Soldiers are to be victualed at 1^{s} a Day each
but I beleive that Act was not made before Capt Polson
reached the place of Rendezvous: when his Company came
thither you may see in the inclosed Acco^{ts} which the Inhabitants
on whom they were quartered delivered me with a petition
requesting payment but in that I am unable to gratify them the
Money that was granted by our Assembly last Summer being
all expended & I almost dispair of finding them disposed to
grant any more Supplies I am sorry to find Capt Rosse has
not behaved so genteely as might have been wished &
expected, & should have been glad he had dealt a little more
ingenuously with me too when he requested me to speak in
his favour to the General without undeceiving me with respect
to his Rank & Half pay. The General however has given
him a first Lieutenancy in Pepperels Regiment & I suppose he
has eer this joined his Corps. I received a Lett^{r} this morning
from General Braddock dated the 17th Inst at the Little
Meadows (between 20 & 30 Miles from Fort Cumberland)
M^{r} Shirley tells me they were got so far with much Difficulty
& Distress but were preparing to go on with more speed by
lessening the Number of waggons to those necessary for the p. 94
Artillery & reducing the provision &c to such a quantity as
may be carried on Horses. A Detachment of 1000 of the
best Troops were to go forward to the great Crossing & the
Rest were to follow more slowly with the remaining waggons
& provisions. A Gent^{n} arrived here this Day in less than 7
weeks from London informs me that his Majesty was gone to
Germany & that he was about to leave England the ministry
seemed to be in some hurry on Acco^{t} of Intelligence that had
been rec^{d} of 22 Sail of Ships having sailed from France toward
the western Coast of Ireland upon which Admirals Hawke &
Boscawen sailed after them with 12 Ships. it was reported
that the French had embarked a very considerable Number of
Troops with a Design of making a Descent in that Kingdom—

Letter Bk. II. p. 108

[Sharpe to Lord Albemarle.]

Iune 22. 1755—

My Ld

About a Month since I had the pleasure to receive by the hand of a Stranger the Letter w^ch^ you did me the honour to write the 11^th^ of last July, by w^t^ Accident I have been so long deprived thereof I could not learn: I also embrace this Opportunity of Acknowledging the Receipt of your Ldps Favour including a Lett^r^ to Gen^l^ Braddock & to express my Thanks & Gratitude for the kind mention you were pleased to make of me therein. Your Ldp I flatter myself will be readily persuaded, that neither Disposition nor Endeavours were wanting on my Part to recommend myself to the General & to approve myself not entirely unworthy of the notice your Lordsp had taken of me to him & I have the Satisfaction to think he is not displeased at my Behaviour or Conduct) tho I should have been exceedingly glad to have assisted in Person & to have been better enabled than our assembly thought fit to contribute to the Success of the Expedition in which he is engaged. I have this Day received a Letter from him dated the 17^th^ Inst when he was advanced about 25 Miles from Fort Cumberland (sometimes called Wills Creek) Westward but perhaps before I acquaint your Ldp what is now in Action I may be expected to give a short Relation of w^t^ has been already done or rather left undone in Consequence of His Majesty's honouring me with the Commission that I acknowledged the Receipt of to
p. 109 your Ldp in Novem^r^ When I was at that time at Williamsburg tho the winter was then unhappily just approaching I was not absolutely without hopes of being enabled to satisfy in some measure my Friend's wishes for my Success & Prosperity I proposed to Gov^r^ Dinwiddie (who had £20000 from England at his Disposal beside £1500 which his Assembly had granted) to raise 500 or 600 Men immediately & with them & the Independant Companies to have made an Attempt on the Fort that the Enemy had raised at the mouth of the Monongahela, but whatever were my hopes at that time I was soon convinced of their Vanity when in Novem^r^ I arrived at Wills Creek there I learnt that the number of the French at their Fort exceeded 600, beside several Parties of Indians who were at their Devotion & submitted to their Command, The Fort tho small was rendered pretty defensible by a Ditch & two Out Works before the Curtains that faced the Land on the side of the Rivers it was well secured by Palisadoes & the Garrison had laid in a sufficient quantity of Provision for at least the whole winter. On the Contrary, we had no Provisions yet procured & with great Difficulty could a Sufficiency be at that late Season purchased & collected; neither had Gov^r^ Din-

widdie as yet commissionated Commissaries for that Purpose, Letter Bk. II.
Mortars, Field Pieces or Cannon we had none except four
small ones of the Latter which I purchased out of a Ship. The
Troops that I must have commanded were three Independant
Companies that did not in the least answer my Expectations
as your Ldp will conceive when you are informed that S^r^ Iohn
S^t^ Clair on reveiwing them has since discharged 40 Men from
one of them only as entirely unfit for Duty: The Remains of
the Virg^a^ Forces with a few Recruits amounted to about 130 p. 110
discontented unruly & for want of Pay mutinous: the Mary-
land Company was at that time incompleat & undisciplined,
but I may at least say they were not inferiour to any of the
Rest. The Officers who were honoured with his Majesty's
Commissions would not deign to rank with those who served
under those of his Majestys Governors; Vain were my Attempts
to persuade them to agree, tho I proposed the same Scheme
w^ch^ is now come with a Sanction from home; Such Jealousies
& Enmities subsisted between the Officers of the Carolina
Independants & the Virg^a^ Regiment that their meeting
would have been attended with innumerable Mischiefs &
Confusion; perhaps the greater the Number of such Troops
as these the greater had been the Danger of a miscarriage had
I ventured to make an Attempt. I had sollicited the several
Neighbouring Colonies for Supplies but received scarcely
hopes of Assistance from any other & but very little from my
own Gov^t^ The Levies went on very slowly the Natives
shewed no Inclination nor would they be persuaded to bear
Arms. to have attempted any thing & have failed of Success
must have been attended with the entire Loss of such Indians
as have hitherto seemed or appeared to be in our Interest. In
these Circumstances I shall not be condemned I hope for not
acting Offensively: finding that impracticable I posted what
Troops we had in such a manner as they could best protect our
Frontiers till the Arrival of the Troops from Europe (which
Letters had by this time bid us expect) should make things put
on a better Face. I returned hither in December & endeav-
oured once more to obtain some money of the Assembly with
which I might be able to make some Provision & put matters
in such Forwardness as might facilitate the General's Oppera-
tions in the Spring, but failing herein (I beleive the People p. 111
begun to think that as Troops were coming from Europe they
had no Occasion to concern themselves any farther) I paid
another Visit to the Camp, intending to tarry there & keep the
Men employed in building Store Houses &c till I should be
advised of the General's or the Troops Arrival. here on the
26 of Jan^y^ I had the Satisfaction to congratulate S^r^ I S^t^ Clair
on his Arrival who came thither with a Design to see executed

Letter Bk. II. what I had begun having given the Commissaries that Governor Dinwiddie had now appointed Instructions about laying Provisions into the Magazine we returned to Williamsburg in hopes of finding the General by that time there being disappointed in these Expectations I could not wait his Arrival by reason our Assembly was again about to meet, but I left a Lett[r] for him & as soon as I was released by the Assembly's Prorogation I waited on him the last week in March at Alexandria where he was just arrived & where the Regiments from Ireland were then disembarked & Encamped. The 3[d] of April the General came to Annapolis where he had appointed to have an Interview with Governor Shirley who however did not come hither till the week following & then we proceeded to the General at Alexandria. With General Braddock I had the honour & satisfaction to welcome Commodore Kepple to Annapolis & from him to receive your Favour dated the
General Braddock stayed here three Days with a little Impatience & at his Return hence ordered the Regiments to move westward Col[o] Halketts & the Train thro Virg[a] to Fort Cum-
p. 112 berland & Colo. Dunbar's on this side Potowmack to the same place. The great Scarcety of Waggons & Horses in these Parts & the Difficulty of getting those that are by reason our Assemblies had granted no money for the Payment of them or for any such Purposes obliged the Troops to move very slowly so that they did not reach Fort Cumberland till the 2[d] week in May & all the Stores were not got thither till some time afterwards. The 28[th] of May a Detachment of 600 was ordered to march & fling a Bridge over a Stream that flows 14 or 15 miles from Fort Cumberland westward & the General with the Rest of the Troops followed the 10[th] Inst. & had on the 17[th] with a good deal of Difficulty on Account of the Hills & Mountains that occurred marched about 25 or 30 Miles. I beleive they have as many more Miles to march before they get into a level Country. The Army consists of about 2300 Men fifty of whom are left under the Command of Colo. Innes (he is a Gent[n] of N Carolina was a Captain at Carthegena but has since sold his Commission) at Fort Cumberland. The Troops have hitherto been pretty healthy, I am informed 50 Invalids only are left behind with Colonel Innes. After this week we shall be in daily Expectation of receiving Letters from Fort Du Quesne that will give all his Friends & these Colonies Room to congratulate themselves on the Generals Success. He tells me that he proposes to repair the Fort that the French have raised in case he reduces it or build some other place of Defence there as a Barrier against future Encroachments which he will garrison with the Virginia & Maryland Troops & leave it to these two Colonies to Victual them: I do not know who is to have

the Command of the Garrison at present all the Provincial Troops are formed into Independant Companies of 50 each I apprehend he cannot leave there less than 5 or 6 of these Companies. While the General is employed on the Ohio, Gov^r^ Shirley's & S^r^ W^m^ Pepperell's Regiments with 500 Men from the Jersies are to make an Attack on the French at Niagara & more than 4000 Men more that are raised by the N England & N York Gov^ts^ are to be commanded by one Col^o^ Johnson & attempt the French Fort at Crown-Point (called Fort S^r^ Frederick) on the Northern Frontier of N York. This Colonel Johnson has resided many years among the Mohawks a Tribe of the Six Indian nations & is in much Esteem with them. The Hopes thereby to engage many of those Savages to join in the Enterprize & at the same time his being well regarded both by the People of N England & N York induced the General to give Col^o^ Johnson such a Command: he does not seem to want Courage but has never seen any Service unless that during the late War he sometimes headed a Party of Indians. I have not heard lately how they go on in that part of the Continent but am in hopes that by this time they are also ready to enter on Action— Letter Bk. II. p. 113

[Gov. Shirley to Morris.] Copy.

Boston June 23^d^ 1755

Sir

I am to inform your Honour that on the 21^st^ inst^t^ the General Assembly of this Province orderd a Bill to be brought in to lay an Embargo upon all Vessels laden with Provisions (fish only excepted) or with Warlike stores unless what are necessary for the Voige for the space of one month provided nevertheless that the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being with the advice of the Council may Permitt a Supply to be sent to the Armey & Navy with necessary Provisions within that time.

They have likewise desird me to Write forthwith to the other Governments informing them of this Determination of this Government, and to desire that they would immediately come into the same resolution for three months in which case this Government will continue the like Embargo here for three months also.

As their is certain Advice of a French Fleet being seen the 5^th^ inst^t^ about 40 Leagues from Louisburgh & there is great reason to think that the french there as well as at Canada are but scantly supplied with Provisions, I doubt not but your Government will act in Concert with us in this matter. Being

much straitned in time and the Post just going I must pray your honour to send Copies of this to Governor Dinwiddie and Governor Sharp.

I am with great Respect
Sir
Your Honours most obedient
Humble Servant
W Shirley.

The Honb[le] Robert Hunter Morris Esq[r]

Letter Bk. I. p. 131

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Iune 28[th] [1755]

My Ld

The Assembly of this province met last Monday; the time that has since intervened they have employed in preparing a Bill for £5000—to be granted to his Majesty & raised much
p. 132 after the same manner as was in the last Session proposed; as they have again appropriated the Ordinary Lycences & those of Pedlars to replace the money that must be taken out of the Loan Office The Bill must according to your Ldps Instructions meet with the same Fate, as did that which was presented the last Session. This Morning I received Letters from the Troops who were the 22[d] Inst. when my Letters were Dated about 40 Miles westward from Fort Cumberland, the Difficulty of getting Waggons & heavy Baggage over the Mountains has retarded them a good Deal as your Lordship will conceive when you are informed that the General has been 12 Days marching these 40 Miles. A small Body of French had been discovered by their advanced Guard, but it is not confirmed to me that they have had any Skirmish I hope & expect Fort Du Quesne will at least be invested by the Middle of next Week. This Morning I received Letters from Col[o] Innes Commandant of Fort Cumberland, & Colo Cresap advising me that on last Monday morning a party of French Indians fell upon some of the distant Inhabitants of Frederick C[ty] of whom they killed three with the Loss of only one of their own party & carried Eight away prisoners. By other Letters from Virg[a] I am informed that another party of these Barbarians have also murthered Eleven of the Back Inhabitants of that province & carried as there is reason to suspect many more into Captivity I immediately communicated this Intelligence to the Assembly & requested them to enable me to provide against & prevent such Accidents for the future, in Answer to my Message they presented the following Address—"Resolved that this House will make suitable provision for the paying & maintaining 80 Men including Officers for 4 months (if Occasion) for ranging on the Frontiers of this Province to protect

the same against the Incursions & Depredations that may be attempted or made by the French or their Indian Allies— "Resolved further that this House will defray the reasonable Expence of conveying Intelligence from Wills Creek to Annapolis & back thither for four Months"—I could have wished they had proceeded to prepare a Bill immediately in pursuance of their Resolves but they have postponed it to Monday Morning. I shall embrace another Opportunity of writing next Wednesday when I hope to send your Ldp better news & to repeat to your Ldp how much I am Yrs. &c. Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] p. 133

Iune 28th 1755—transmitted by Capt Sutton—

Sir

Inclosed you have a Copy of my last & herewith you receive Duplicates of the Laws that were passed last Session. Your Favour dated the 7th of April I have received & will present Mr Gordon with His Ldps Mark of Favour to morrow; With Mr Tasker will I consult concerning Mr Hides Affair & write to you thereon next Wednesday. Our Assembly met last Monday as I before gave you reason to expect. Yesterday morning they presented the Upper House with a Bill for £5000; but as the Ordinary & Pedlars Lycences are thereby appropriated as they were by the Bill which was rejected last Session, it must consequently meet with the same Fate. Copies of my Speech & both Houses Addresses by way of answer you have by this Opportunity & also in the Gazette you will see an Address which has been since presented me, together with my Answer thereto. the Reason why I seem to have restrained them to a pretty small Sum both in my Speech & Message was that I knew if they voted a larger the Ordinary Lycences &c would be inserted in & be appropriated by the Bill that should be brought in to raise the Money; about £3800 is at this time in the Loan Office unappropriated, that money I want to see them apply but I beleive 'twill be vain to wish it—This morning I received Letters from the Camp dated the 22d Inst. the General & Troops were at that time about 40 Miles from Fort Cumberland which they left the 10th the many Hills & Vallies that they have been obliged to Cross have rendered their march so far very tedious & disagreeable, but as they must eer this have descended into a more level Country we shall Expect to receive in 8 or 10 Days some Accounts from Fort Du Quesne. The Generals Advanced Guard had discovered a small Body of French & Indians at a Distance but tis not certain that there has been as yet any

Letter Bk. I. Skirmish. Monacatoocha a brave Indian who attends the General was made prisoner by a party of the Enemy who I suppose surprized him as he was scouting abroad, but I hear that by some Accident he has made his Escape from them & is again returned to the Camp. In my last I hinted to you what I expected would happen as soon as the Troops should have passed the mountains, this morning I was unhappily confirmed in my Opinion by several Letters that I received
p. 134 from Col° Innes who is left with a Garrison of 50 Men at Fort Cumberland, from Col° Cresap at about 9 Miles from whose House the Affair happened, & from a Person at Winchester in Virg^a^ the purport of those Letters you will learn from the Message that was immediately sent to the Lower House of which I have inclosed a Copy with their Address to me in answer thereto. What method will be fallen on to raise Money for the Company that they propose to raise I cannot guess but I wish they had proceeded to that Business at once without taking so long time to cool & wear off the Impression that my Message made on them, however a Day or two will determine that Affair at least & I shall have an early opportunity of apprizing you of the Event & once more of assuring you that I am &c—

Letter Bk. II. p. 94

[Sharpe to Robinson.]

28th June 1755—

R^t^ Hon̄ble

Lest the General should have embraced no Occasion himself I take this Opportunity of acquainting you that General Braddock & the Troops under his Command left Fort Cumberland or Will's-Creek the 10th Inst. the last Letters that I have had the honour to receive from him were dated the 22^d^ when he had with a good Deal of Difficulty on Account of the Mountainous Country that occurred advanced Westward from Fort Cumberland about 40 Miles. A flying Party of the French had surprized & taken Prisoner an Indian (lately called the half King) who attended the General's Camp & is esteemed a very bold & honest fellow, but on the Approach of the General's advanced Guard who discovered them they let him escape & retired towards their Fort—The 23^d^ of this month a party of Indians fell upon four Families of our distant setlers, of whom they killed three & carried 8 away Captives—Letters from Winchester in Virg^a^ of the same Date advise me that
p. 95 another party of French Indians did the Beginning of this week attack & kill 11 of the Back-Inhabitants of that province & that many persons were missing who they supposed were carried away prisoners. Our Assembly being at this

time convened I have apprized them of these Transactions Letter Bk. II.
& desired them to impower me to raise & support a Company of Rangers for the Protection of our Frontiers from such kind of Incursions. They have not yet come to any Resolution, & I know not what I am to expect in Consequence of my Message—

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Iune 28th 1755—

Dr Br

Since the Date of my last a Copy of which is inclosed I have learnt that the General with the Troops under his command left Fort Cumberland the 10th Inst & that they had advanced about 40 Miles from that place westward the 22d in their march so far they have been put to a good many Difficulties by the inequality of the Ground they have been obliged to pass & the Badness of the Roads which were almost impracticable for waggons & the Artillery. however as he must have descended into a more Level Country by this time we hope & expect in 8 or 10 Days to receive news from Fort Du Quesne Letters from the Camp tell me that their advanced Guard had discovered a party of the Enemy, but that a Skirmish ensued wants Confirmation—Our Assembly is now sitting they have shewn pretty good temper & moderation hitherto, but the Bill they have this morning sent up for £5000. is very similar to that lately rejected as to its matter & form so it must consequently meet with the same Fate. Pray on what is your Opinion with respect to his Lordships Right to the Ordinary Lycence Fines & those arising from Lycences granted Hawkers & pedlars founded. Our Lawyers seem to entertain different Sentiments & many of his Ldp's Council appear wavering. In the Infancy of the Colony the Fines upon p. 96
Ordinary Lycences were taken by the Lord Baltimore as his by prerogative, & sometimes they were by him given to his Secretary: When King William assumed the Govern[t] they were appropriated by Law & have been since that time given by several temporary Laws to the late Lord, in 39 the Assembly refused to continue them to his Ldp & the Law expiring, no Lycences were granted; in 1740 they were by Law appropriated to defray the Expence of raising men for the Carthagena Expedition. again in 1746 for that intended against Canada which Law is still in force, by an Act made last July they are appropriated toward Sinking £6000. that was then granted for his Majesty's Service, this act I ventured to pass with the advice of his Ldp's Council contrary to my first Instructions in what manner I am at present restrained you will see in the inclosed

Letter Bk. II. Instructions. His Ldp does at this time receive the forfeitures for neglect in Hawkers & Pedlars to take out Lycence; but he insists on the Lycence Fines also—His Ldp also claims as his Right by prerogative a Fine for Lycencing Ferries, so did the late Lord once & to quiet the peoples Clamour immediately dropt the Affair, at this time some of our Ferries are kept by Order of the County Courts the person who keeps the Boats has a Sum of Tob° levied by the Justices on the C^ty for his payment & the Ferry is free, other Ferries are kept by private persons who demand of Passengers what they please & passengers must pay their Demand or be refused conveyance, most certainly a Regulation is necessary but the people will never vest the proprietor with the Right & power of granting Lycences, & he will not pass a Regulating Bill witho^t it. I earnestly beg the favour of your Opinion on these matters. Yesterday I received Advice that a party of French Indians had fallen on our Back Inhabitants of whom they killed three
p. 97 & carried off 8 prisoners, Another party at the same time fell on the Inhabitants of Virg^a who are setled at a Distance, they say that 11 of them have been found murthered & many others who are missing are supposed to have been carried off, I immediately apprized our Assembly thereof & desired them to enable me to raise a Company of Rangers to prevent such Accidents for the future, in Answer they presented the inclosed Address, but postponed the making suitable provision till Monday Morning. Be pleased to let B^r W^m peruse this & deliver or send the inclosed—

Letter Bk. I. p. 134

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Iune 29^th 1755—

Sir

Your Favour dated the 16^th of April I have just now received, His Ldp's Commands with respect to Doctor Sharpe shall be complied with whenever a Living of Value shall become vacant. I have received a Letter from M^r Eversfield a Clergiman in Prince Georges C^ty desiring me to recommend his Son who is at Oxford to the Bishop for Orders & tells me as an Inducement to my doing so that you advised or directed his Son to take such measures. M^r Eversfield himself bears a very good Character but as his Son has not been in the Province since my Arrival I nor none else here can give him Letters Testimonial to the Bishop of his good Life & Conversation or of his Abilities, such a one he must get signed by the Fellows of the College where he has received his Education & I am informed no Bishop will refuse a College Testimonium; Lest the Bishop should object to the Title that the Son will

present from his Father to him (as the Bishop could not otherwise be satisfied of that Matter) I have certified under the Great Seal that he is a Clergiman & holds Ecclesiastical preferment in His Ldps province. One Mr Williamson Son of Parson Williamson in Calvert Cty is going to England again he tells me to offer himself a Candidate for Orders. His Father has not the best of Characters but I have never heared any ill of the young Fellow since his Residence here. If either of these should request his Ldp's Favour for Ecclesiastical preferment at their Return hither, I should wish they may not receive any promise of being immediately provided for, as His Ldp has already given me Liberty to prefer Mr Thornton & Mr McPherson in case of Vacancies, & because when Gentn have received promises at home for preferment here, every one thinks himself entituled to the first promotion, & all that are not first served are apt to think they are hardly dealt by. I hear that some of the Burgesses incline to have the Company of Rangers mentioned in their yesterday's Address, drafted by Lot out of the Militia others are for raising that number of Men & for striking paper money to pay them to be sunk by a Duty on Rum some would persuade the House to wait the Return of the Bill that now lies before the Upper House & if it come with a Negative to appropriate part of the £3800 in the Office to that Use. some also will endeavour to include the Lycences &c in that Bill also. It has been hinted to me that the Lower House will on the Return of the Bill address his Ldp thereon expressing a Desire to have Love & Cordiality restored & established between the two Houses & all the Branches of the Legislature & in order thereto will desire leave to have an Agent appointed for a certain time & a Sum of Money appropriated to pay him & to bring this & perhaps some other controverted Matters to a Hearing before his Majesty & Council if I should be desired to present such an Address I know not how I can refuse but any Bill for that purpose you may be assured I will never hear of unless His Ldp or yourself should favour me with Instructions for that purpose.

Letter Bk. I. p. 135

[Sharpe to Morris.]

June 30th 1755

Letter Bk. II. p. 97

Sr

I send this Express at Governor Dinwiddies Desire with two Letters that I have just recd from Virga General Braddock acquaints me that he was the 22d Inst. advanced 40 miles from Fort Cumberland towards the Ohio. the Badness of the Roads & the Mountains have much distressed & retarded him. His advanced Guard had discovered a small Body of French at a

Letter Bk. II. Distance who upon the Approach of our Troops retired & let Monacatoocha the Half King, who had fallen into their hands escape. Saturday morning I received Letters from Coll Innes & some of our distant Inhabitants informing me that this Day sennight a party of Indians fell upon some of the Inhabitants of Frederick C^ty^ of whom they killed three & carried off Eight prisoners. The Body of a French Indian was found lying by those of the three English who were murthered; we are also told that Eleven People have been killed by Indians in the Back-parts of Virg^a^ upon my communicating this Intelligence to our Assembly they presented me an Address of which I have inclosed you a Copy, the Master of a Ship who left London the 6^th^ of May reports that the Brest Fleet with a considerable Body of Troops on board was sailed some imagined for America others to make a Descent in Ireland Admirals Hawke & Moysten were also sailed. His Majesty was gone to visit his German Dominions—

Letter Bk. I. p. 135

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

July 5^th^ 1755 by Capt. Sutton from Potuxent—

Sir

Inclosed is a Copy of my last, since the Date of that I have received Advice that Fifteen more of our distant Inhabitants are killed or carried away by Indians a party of whom have been seen not far from Conegogeek which is near 100 Miles within our Settlements. The Lower House still persevere in their Obstinacy & I beleive will never recede from what they have been contending for tho Half the Province should be depopulated. They have not yet addressed me to be prorogued but I expect they will to morrow morning & twill be absolutely to no purpose ever to meet them again. I have not since heared from the General but I am not without Apprehensions that he will be obliged to desert the Fort when he has taken it for want of Provisions which he cannot now expect from these Colonies: in that Case I fear the French will
p. 136 again take possession of that Country & then Let the General's Success be ever so great, we shall be in as bad if not a worse situation than we were last Winter. The Sheveralty of Calvert Cty will soon become vacant. M^r^ & M^rs^ Graham did & have always received £50. p Ann. from the present Sheriff to whom twas given on that Consideration, M^r^ Young has been with me desiring I will permit him to appoint the next that he may continue to receive the fifty pounds a year which M^rs^ Young tells him I have his Lordships Orders to grant M^r^ Skinner of Calvert C^ty^ at the same time expects the next Sheveralty in Consequence of the Letter you gave him to me unsealed,

he is not one who would make any Allowance out of the Income Letter Bk. I.
therefore I am at a Loss what measures to pursue so as to offend neither, I hope you will favour me with your Directions & that I shall receive them before the time that I shall be obliged to make any Alteration—M[r] Tasker tells me he has sent you the whole Acc[t] of M[r] Hide's Affairs with the late Lord Baltimore & what was done therein by him as Agent. I am unwilling to write to his Ldp unless I had better News to acquaint him with wherefore I shall defer it till I again address myself to you & in the mean time am S[r] &c—

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Letter Bk. II. p. 98

Iuly 6. 1755.

D[r] B[r]

Our Assembly is still sitting having yet done Nothing in Compliance with my Recommendation or Requests. The old Obstacles occur & will I beleive oblige me to prorogue the Assembly to Morrow.

By Letters from our Back Inhabitants that have been received since those mentioned in my last Letter I am informed that 15 more of the distant Setlers have been killed or carried away prisoners & that a Party of Indians were seen the 29[th] Ult 100 Miles within our Setlements. I am satisfied the Assembly will never recede from the points that his Ldps Instructions oblige me to insist on tho half the province should be depopulated; & to see the poor Inhabitants who are near the frontiers in such distressed Circumstances with[t] being able to releive or protect them gives me great Concern & uneasiness; besides I am not without Apprehensions that when Gen[l] Braddock has taken the French Forts on the Ohio the French will immediately recover & repossess them, for without Compulsion these Colonies will not support a Garrison there or supply it with Ammunition or provisions—

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

July 8.

Sr

The inclosed Packett I have just rec[d] from Gov[r] Morris. Our Assembly is still sitting but I beleive I shall be obliged to prorogue them to Day as they seem determined to grant no Supplies not even for the protection of our Frontiers on which parties of Indians are daily committing Depredations. I have Acc[ts] of their having killed & carried away 26 of our distant Inhabitants & that a party of them have been seen not far from Conegogeek near 100 Miles within our Settlements.

Letter Bk. I. p. 136

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

transmitted by Virg[a] dated 9 July. [1755]

Sir

As I am dispatching an Express to Virg[a] I request the favour of Gov[r] Dinwiddie to put this on Board the first Ship that sails, to acquaint you that finding the Burgesses determined to do nothing either for his Majesty's Service or their own Protection unless the Points for which they have been contending were given up to them, I prorogued our Assembly yesterday Evening after they had twice requested me to be dismissed in the Course of the Session they presented me with a furious Address against Roman Catholicks which you will see inclosed: as I thought it contained some indecent Reflections I thought it improper to let it pass unanswered as you will aso see by the papers herewith transmitted. The Occasion of it was the late preferment of the Attorney General (who unhappily is no Favourite with the People) to the Naval
p. 137 Office of Potuxent. I beleive too their warmth was increased by some Letters writ hither some time since intimating that if M[r] Hanbury had not prevented it you would have got M[r] Darnal appointed to a Seat in the Council. for my part I have not heard but the Papists behave themselves peaceably and as good Subjects, They are I imagine about one twelfth of the People & many of them are Men of pretty considerable Fortunes; I conceive their Numbers do not increase tho I have reason to think the greater part of the Germans which are imported profess that Religion. As the Lower House first resolved that all the Penal Laws mentioned in the Tolleration Act are in force within this Province, tho some of them have been entirely & others in part repealed by later Acts of Parliament, I declined granting the Request in the Conclusion of their Address lest the Courts should govern themselves in some sort by the Resolve of the Lower House of Assembly & a fiery Persecution should ensue. This Part of my Conduct will not I hope be disapproved of by his Lordsp or yourself, & I hope you will think that nothing has been left undone to bring the Assembly to Reason & Temper tho our Endeavours have failed of Success. A Bill for an Agent was sent to the Upper House but immediately rejected. Gov[r] Moris informs me that all his Endeavours have proved equally unsuccessful & that he cannot think of meeting the Assembly of that province again unless some Reformation be first made in their Constitution. We are advised from the Northern Gov[ts] that the French Fleet consisting of 6 Men of War & 9 large Transports with 4000 Land Forces on board are in the Harbour of Louisburg, & that Admiral Boscawen lies before that Town with 13 Capital Ships. Gov[r] Dinwiddie also informs me that two parties of

Indians & French amounting together to about 130 Men have Letter Bk. I.
been seen in the Frontier Counties where they have destroyed
9 Families & plundered & burnt their Habitations. He
acquaints me too that the General Assembly of that Gov^t^ have
granted £10000 more for the Service of the Expedition to be
raised by a Land Tax of 15^d^ p 100 Acres 15^d^ on every Taxable
negroe, & 10 p C^t^ on Negroes imported; they have also
impowered the Governor to raise 200 Men for the Protection
of their Frontiers ag^st^ the Incursions & Ravages of the French
& Indians & he is raising two Companies of Rangers accord- p. 138
ingly. from our receiving no Letters from the General since
those dated the 22 of Iune we Apprehend that those Indian
Parties have cut off the Communication between him & Fort
Cumberland & taken the Carriers. I am about to depart for
Frederickton (where I have given Orders for all the Military
Officers of that C^ty^ to meet) to try what can be done with the
Militia for the Defence & Protection of our distant Inhabitants,
I propose to draft a Company of 60 or 80 from the Militia by
Lot & oblige them to keep ranging on the Frontiers for a few
Months without any Pay. Provisions they must impress &
take it where it can be found & if money be ever granted, the
People from whom it is taken must be satisfied for the same.
Unless some such Step be taken The people will not be per-
suaded to stay on their plantations being already struck with
an universal pannick—The Representatives for Frederick &
some of the other C^tys^ on this side the Bay would have gladly
done any thing to obtain Assistance & protection but as the
Gent^n^ whose Counties are not so immediately exposed did not
so sensibly feel for the Sufferings of the poor people as they
would were they less retired from Danger all propositions for
an Accommodation were vain & fruitless. The Laws are
transcribed as low down as 1749 so that I hope to have them
bound & fit to be sent by the very next Opportunity—

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Iuly 9^th^ 1755—

My Ld

Inclosed is a Duplicate of the last Lett^r^ that I took the Lib-
erty to address to your Ldp & I heartily wish the Contents of
what I am now writing were more agreeable than the news
that I then communicated. When the Gent^n^ of the Lower
House came to the Resolutions that your Lordship was before
advised of I was not without hopes that they would fall on
some unexceptionable Means to raise a small Sum of Money
for the protection of your Lordships Tenants who are exposed

Letter Bk. I. to the Incroachments & Devastations of the French & their Savages by whom 26 of the Distant Inhabitants have already perished however I with sorrow find that they will set nothing
p. 139 in Competition with the points for which they have been contending & that the Lives & Safeties of the people must submit to their Caprice & Humour finding it was impossible to prevail on them to grant any Supplies or make such Provision as it was my Duty to sollicit & as common Prudence & Humanity should have inclined them to give, I complied with their repeated Request by proroguing the Assembly to Ianuary next when your Ldp's Council will advise farther to prorogue them unless your Ldp shall in the mean time be pleased to signify your pleasure to the Contrary. Gov[r] Morris advises me that the Assembly of that Province have behaved & concluded their Session just in the same manner, & are determined to abide by their former Resolutions unless they be compelled to recede by some superiour Authority. I have also received a Letter from Gover[r] Dinwiddie wherein he tells me that the Assembly of that Dominion have granted £10000 more for the Encouragement of the Expedition & upon receiving Intelligence from their Frontier Cties that two parties of Indians & French amounting together to about 130 Men had been seen there & had destroyed 9 Families & burnt their Habitations, they have also impowered him to raise 200 Men for the Protection of the Distant Settlements: As no other Hopes now remain I am about to set off for Frederick to try what can be done with the Militia of that Cty whose Officers are ordered to meet, & I intend to have 80 Men furnished from their several Companies by Lot or otherwise which I shall form into one Company of Rangers & impress Victuals according to the Directions of the Militia Act for their Subsistance till the Barbarians shall decline to infest our Borders. We learn by the Way of Phil[a] that the French Fleet consisting it is said of 6 Men of War & 9 large Transports with 4000 Land Forces are in the Harbour of Louisburg & that Admiral Boscawen with 13 Sail of the Line lies before that place. We hope very shortly to hear from General Braddock at Fort Du Quesne & from Oswego on Ontario Lake where Gov[r] Shirley with the Troops under his Command must we expect be by by this time arrived—

Letter Bk. II. p. 99

[Sharpe to Braddock.]

July 9th 1755—

S[r]

I am exceedingly sorry to be under a necessity of acquainting you that our Assembly broke up yesterday without making any provision either for the uses for which money was required

by your Letter of the 22d of May or for the Support of the Maryland Company that is now with you, indeed so infatuated & averse to giving money were they that they have refused to grant the least Sum towards the protection of our Frontiers & the distant Inhabitants 26 of whom have been killed & carried away by Indian Parties since you left Fort Cumberland. This Obstinacy of theirs has rendered me unable to make any more Remittances to Capt Dagworthy or his Company of which I have informed him & advised him to wait on you for Orders what to do with his Men or what part to act himself. I propose to set out for Frederick in a Day or two & try what can be done with the Militia the House of Assembly would persuade them that the Law is not in force but I shall endeavour to shew them that I entertain different Sentiments with respect to that matter. By Letters from the Northward I am informed that the Brest Squadron consisting of 4 Men of War & 20 Transports with 4000 Land Forces on board were arrived at Louisburg & that Admiral Boscawen was also before that place with Ten Capital Ships & expected to be joined by 3 more of his Fleet who had lost him in the passage. there is great Reason to beleive they are not extremely well supplied with Provision on Acco[t] of the Embargo that was laid in Ireland: if so they must soon be greatly distressed as some late Laws that have been made by these several provinces have prevented the Exportation of any Supplies hence to Cape Breton— Letter Bk. II.

[Sharpe to Capt. Orme.] p. 100

July 9th 1755—

S[r]

I have writ to inform the General of my ill Success with our Assembly who broke up Yesterday without making any Provision for the Service & uses for which the General asked Money of this & the two neighbouring Provinces. by this Event I am rendered unable to support or make any more Remittances to Capt Dagworthy or his Company of which I have acquainted him & advised him to wait on you to receive the General's Orders for the Disposal of himself & the Men under his Command. While our people had the General's Letter under Consideration we received Intelligence that some Parties of Indians had made Incursions & killed or carried away 26 of the Inhabitants who dwelt a few miles from Fort Cumberland, upon which I would have persuaded them to impower me to raise & support a Company of Rangers for the Protection of the Frontiers, but they refused to grant any money for that or any other purpose, which Resolution I beleive they will never recede from tho Half the Province

Letter Bk. II. should be depopulated, unless the Legislature of G Britain shall think proper to interfere & compel us to take proper measures for our own preservation. I am about to set off for Frederick to try what can be done with the Militia; while I am there I hope I shall be able to get that Man apprehended in which case I shall send him to Fort Cumberland with a Letter to Coll Innes to forward him to you by the first Opportunity—Yours of the 22d ult was the last Lettr that has been recd from the Camp, we shall begin to be in daily Expectation of receiving better news from you than we can write hence which you may be assured will much rejoice

Sr &c

p. 101 [Sharpe to Capt. Dagworthy.]

July 9th

Sir

I am sorry to acquaint you that the Resolutions of the Assembly which was prorogued yesterday has put it out of my power to support your Company any longer or to make you any farther Remittances, the last Sum that was sent by Mr Hopkins I advanced on the publick Credit not imagining that I should find so great Difficulty in getting myself reimbursed or in procuring farther Supplies, but as I find myself disappointed in any hopes I might have entertained from the Assembly's meeting I have writ to acquaint the General therewith & to desire him to give you such Orders as he shall think proper for your own Conduct or for the Disposal of your Company, which you will I doubt not readily obey, Any Services in my power I shall always readily do yourself & the Gentn under your Command & on all Occasions shew myself your Friend & wellwisher

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Iuly 10—

Sr

Yrs dated the 5th Inst. with several Letters which shall be dispatched to the Northward I have received, in answer thereto I must with concern acquaint you that I was obliged to prorogue our Assembly yesterday who after more than a fortnights Consideration came to a Resolution that they would grant no Supplies in compliance with General Braddocks Sollicitation, nor any money to be expended for the Defence & Protection of our Frontiers tho we were advised that 26 of our Back Inhabitants have been killed & carried away Prisoners since the 22d of June. So peremptory was their Refusal that I can-

p. 102 not think of meeting them again unless the Legislature of

G Britain shall first interpose & remove all Occasion of Dis- Letter Bk. II.
pute between us, in the mean time I shall endeavour to regulate our Militia as well as the Law will support me in doing & I hope I shall be able to draft & form a Company of Eighty out of them to range on our Extreme Borders to protect the Frontiers; Provisions I shall order to be impressed where it can be found, & for Subsistance they must trust to the Generosity of some future & more benevolent Assembly. I intend to go to Frederickton next week to review the Militia & the Company of Rangers therefrom to be drafted before they march. I had besides defraying the Expence of the Curriers advanced £100, for the Subsistance of the Maryland Company to this time hoping the Assembly would be prevailed on to grant a small Sum from whence I might be repaid but as their late Conduct makes me dispair of being ever reimbursed, I have writ to the General & the Captain acquainting them that I can make no more Remittances for the Support of the Company, which I therefore hope the General will order to be divided between the Regiments. I have received a Lett[r] from Gov[r] Morris dated the 3[d] Inst. in which he gives me just such an Acc[t] of the Event of his Assembly's Meeting as I have given you of Ours, & in every part of it he expresses Despair of seeing it otherwise till a great Reformation be made in that Gov[t] When Col[o] Innes writ to me the 22[d] of Iune since which time I have received no Lett[r] from the Camp, his Garrison consisted of 22 Men 30 of them sick, there were also left with him at Fort Cumberland 50 Invalids from the European Regiments I beleive he thinks the Garrison full small & will be glad of your Reinforcement which (as you know my Condition & that I must pay from my own purse for p. 103
the Conveyance of Ammunition to the Militia) will I hope receive your Orders to convoy up the Stores that you mention & I apprehend they would be carried with less Danger by Land than by Water. Gov[r] Shirley advised me before he left Boston (I beleive he is eer this on his way from Albany to Oswego) that the French Fleet from Brest was seen by several Vessels a little to the Eastward of Cape Breton & that certain Intelligence had been brought to Boston of Admiral Boscawen's being at S[t] Iohns in Newfoundland with 10 Capital Ships 3 of his squadron having seperated from him in the passage; Gov[r] Morris in his Lett[r] says "last night we had Acc[ts] that the French Fleet with 4000 Land Forces were in the Harbour of Louisburg & that Boscawen with 13 Ships of the Line was before it, this news may I beleive be depended on tho it is not absolutely certain," private Letters from Phil[a] say the French Fleet consists of 6 Men of War & 9 large Transports, there is great reason to think that the Embargo which was laid in

Letter Bk. II. Ireland on Provisions made them sail before they could be extremely well supplied, if so they will I suppose soon be distressed at Louisburg especially as the Northern Gov^{ts} have laid an Embargo for one Month on all Ships that are laden with Provisions unless such be wanted for the British Fleet or the Nova Scotia Forces. I thank you for remitting me the Bill that was inclosed, Your Kindness in putting my Packett for England on board the first Ship that sails & forwarding the Letter to the Commodore will much oblige &c.

Lib. J. R. & V. S. p. 57

[James Innes (to Fairfax?)]

Sir: I have this Moment received the Melancholy Account of the Defeat of our Troops, the General kill'd and Numbers of our Officers, our whole Artillery taken; In short the Account I have Received is so very bad, that, as please God I intend to make a stand here, its highly necessary to raise the Militia everywhere to defend the Frontiers

Your humble serv^{t}

Fort Cumberland July 11th 1755 James Innes

To all to whom this may Concern

Letter Bk. I. p. 140

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Iuly 13th p Capt Spencer

S^{r}

The inclosed will shew you what is already done & now in Action to the Northward, the papers from whence you have the Transcript were brought last night by a Gent who came immediately hither from New York. I apprehend the Accounts may be depended on & that I shall have the News confirmed by Express this Afternoon. A few Days since we were informed by Letters from the Camp that General Braddock with the Troops under his Command was the first Inst within 25 Miles of Fort Du Quesne which place he hoped to see in 4 or 5 Days. they had lost only 4 men on their march from Fort Cumberland 3 of whom were scalped by Indians & one carried off alive. No Enemy had been seen by them for 3 Days—

Letter Bk. II. p. 104

[Sharpe to William Sharpe.]

Annapolis Iuly 13. 1755—W^{m} Sharpe Esq.

D^{r} B^{r}

By Letters from General Braddock's Camp dated the 1st of this Month we are informed that the Troops under his Command were at that time within 25 Miles of Fort Du Quesne

which they hoped to see in 4 Days from that time. They had Letter Bk. II.
lost only 4 Men on their March from Fort Cumberland by the Enemy. The Indians have not been quite so favourable to our Distant Inhabitants & those who dwelt in the frontier Cties of Virg[a] We heard some time ago that 2 parties of them have been seen in that Dominion where they have cut off 9 Families & I have particular Acc[ts] that 26 of our Back Setlers have met with the same Fate. They are raising 2 Companies of Rangers in Virg[a] for the Protection of their Frontiers but in vain have I applied to our Assembly for means to protect ours also. Gov[r] Shirley with the Remainder of his own & S[r] W[m] Pepperells Regiment sailed from New York for Albany about a week since. I suppose they are e'er this on their march to Oswego. from the Northern Gazettes which are just brought hither we learn that the N England Troops that sailed to Nova Scotia in May had been joined by some of the Regulars there & had taken the French Fort lately called Beau Sejour, at the Head of the Bay of Fundy, when it surrendered the 16[th] of June there were found therein 24 Cannon some of them 12 pounders together with a great plenty of Ammunition & Provisions. The two French Garrisons on Bay Verte had on the news of Beau Sejour's being taken sent to Capitulate. From Boston we are advised that one Capt Jones arrived there the 25[th] of June from Hallifax & informs them that the 20[th] of that month Capt Spry in his Majestys Ship Fogena brought in there the Alcide a French Ship of War of 64 Guns taken by Admiral Boscawen's Squadron off Louisburg. The English Fleet had also taken the Lys a 74 Gun Ship with 8 Companies of French Troops on Board, several Officers & Engineers & the Military Chest. Capt Spry also carried in with him a French Brigan- p. 105
tine & a Schooner.

Admiral Boscawen continues to cruize between Cape Sable & the Gulf of S[t] Lawrence & has sent Expresses it is said for all his Majestys Ships in N America to join him.

[Innes to Dinwiddie.] Original.

Honou[rd] S[ir]

My letter of the 18[th] Iune brough you the Defenceless situation that I was left in here notwithstanding in all this time I have not seen the feace of one Single Person come here as Militia from Either Virginea or Marey Land either to strengthen the Defence of the Place or to be readdey as Escorts for sending Out with Provisions. Depending upon some Succers I have from time to time Detatch[d] party after party to the Army so that I now have verey few reall healthy men to do the Dewty.

This Dismall news brought down here on the Eleventh Curr^tt^ Fryday att Noon, oblig^d^ me to send it as it came to my Ears from Waggoners & such people

I was surpris^d^ not to have some Messenger sent me from the Armie with accountt that I might depend upon which Oblig^d^ me to send a Boey on purpose next day and gave him one of the best & freshest horses I hade here & this moment he is return^d^ with much the same Accounts.

His Horse giving Out he could proceed no forrder then the Little Meadows 25 miles from this all the Accounts I gett from him is relaited by the Waggoners & much to the same purport as att first. that the Gener^ll^ & maney officers are kill^d^ & halfe of our Soldiers, with most of the Artilery Taken by the Indeens. But not in this time having aney Accountts from the Armie gives me hope things cannot be so verey Bad with us.

However I think it is hily requsite and full time that the Militia in the three Neighbouring Provinces should be imediately Draughted & Sent out to there Assistance Horses & Waggons will be absolutly needfull Three or Four Thowsand Men will absolutely carrie Victuary before us, when five times the number in a litle time hence will not do. All which I most Humbly Submitt, you may depn'd as soon as I receive aney Accounts I shall forward them. You may leakways Depent Pleas God. I live I will do my best to maintain this Post.

I Am Your
Hon^rs^ Most Obed^t^ Hu^ll^ Ser^tt^
James Innes

Fort Cumberland
13^th^ July 1755

To the Hon^ble^ Gov^r^ Dinwiddie.

[Innes to Sharpe.]

Sir

Herewith I send your Exell^cy^ a Coppie of my letter to Governor Dinwiddie which is the fullest accountts I am able to gett I am this instant getting another Person & another horse to send out to the Armie with directions not to returne without some Acc^tts^

Your Ex^cy^ Mos^tt^ Obed^t^ Hu^ble^ Serv^tt^
James Innes

Fort Cumberland
13^th^ July 1755

P. S. the Action is said to be on the 8^th^ Curr^tt^ & within four miles of the French Fort.

To The Hon^ble^ Hor^o^ Sharp Esq^r^

[Sharpe to Morris.] Letter Bk. II. p. 105

July 15th 1755—

Sr

The inclosed was just now sent me from Marlbro whither it was brought from Belhaven yesterday I have not recd any Letters from the General or the Camp since the 22d of Iune but one Mr who belongs to the Train [in a Lettr to a Gentn of this Town dated near the Great Meadows the first of this Month says on the 9th of last Month the whole Army (except 600 Men with Sr Iohn St Clair who marched two Days before) went from Wills-Creek & with infinite Difficulty thro the worst Roads in the world arrived 10 Days afterwards at the little Meadows where an Abatie was made by Sr Iohn & two Engineers encircling the whole Camp. Here the whole halted 3 Days; then the Barronet with his party moved forwards & the 2d Day after the General with 4 Howitzers, 4 twelve Pounders, 13 Artillery Waggons besides Ammunition Carts followed him & have kept marching on ever since; & this Evening tis expected His Excellency will be within 25 miles of the Fort. Colo Dunbar with the Remainder of the Army, four Artillery Officers, 84 Carriages with Ordnance Stores & all the Provision Waggons form the Rear amongst whom I have the honour to be—The Night before last we were alarmed 4 different times by the skulking Indians on whom our Out Guards & Centries fired. We have had 3 People scalpt but it happened thro their own Imprudence in loitering behind too far, Tis said this morning the General has had Advice that 500 Regulars are in full March to the Fort which is the p. 106
Reason his determined to be there before them. As we have had but very little fresh Provisions since we left the Fort at Wills Creek the Officers as well as the private men have been & still are extremely ill with the Flux many have dyd. To Morrow morning we march again & are to encamp on the Western Side of the Great Meadows. From hence we are to proceed after the Genl but am fearful it will not be before we have built some Fortification there & left a strong Party of Men with a great Deal of Provisions & Artillery Stores, our Horses being so weak for want of Food & Rest that it is impossible for the whole Rear to join the Front in 25 Days.] The Gentn of this Province are subscribing liberally towards the support of 200 or 300 Men I shall sett off for Frederick in 2 Days—

Letter Bk. I. p. 140

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

July 15 1755. transmitted by Capt. Spencer.

S^r^

This Morning I rec^d^ from Alexandria a Copy of a Lett^r^ from which the inclosed is transcribed as this is the only Intelligence we have rec^d^ of the Affair therein mentioned & as Col^o^ Innes expresses himself in such general Terms I know not what to think tho I am apprehensive that the Enemy have actually fallen upon the Army divided & defeated some or all of the Divisions. I have myself rec^d^ no Letter from the General or the Camp since that dated the 22^d^ of June but a Person belonging to the Train in a Lett^r^ to a Gent^n^ of this place dated the first of this Month at their Camp near the Great Meadows expresses himself in the following manner, On the 9^th^ of last Month the whole Army (except 600 Men with S^r^ I S^t^ Clair who marched 2 Days before) went from Wills Creek, & with infinite Difficulty thro the worst Roads in the world arrived 10 Days afterwards at the little Meadows where an Abatie was made by S^r^ John & 2 Engineers encircling the whole Camp, here the whole halted 3 Days, then the Bar^t^ with his party moved forwards & the 2^d^ Day after the General with 4 Howitzers, 4. 12 Pounders, 13 Artillery Waggons,
p. 141 besides Ammunition Carts followed him & have kept marching on ever since & this Evening tis expected his Excell^cy^ will be within 25 Miles of the Fort Colonel Dunbar with the Remainder of the Army, 4 Artillery Officers 84 Carriages with Ordnance Stores & all the Provision Waggons form the Rear, amongst whom I have the honor to be, tho contrary to my Inclination, as all the Sport will be over long before we can reach the General. The night before last we were alarmed 4 different times by the Skulking Indians on whom our out Guards & Centries fired we have had 3 people scalpt but it happened thro their own imprudence in loitering behind too far, Tis said this morning the General has had Advice that 500 Regulars are in full march to the Fort which is the Reason he is determined to be there before em. As we have had but very little fresh Provisions since we left the Fort at Wills Creek the Officers as well as the private Men have been & still are extreemly ill with the Flux & many have died. To morrow morning we march again & are to encamp on the Western Side of the Great Meadows, thence we are to proceed after the General but am fearful it will not be before we have built some Fortification there & left a strong Party of Men with a great Deal of Provisions & Artillery Stores, our Horses being so weak for want of Food & Rest that it is impossible for the whole Rear to join the Front in 25 Days.

You will suppose the News of General Braddocks defeat has Letter Bk. I.
thrown the People into the greatest Consternation I have called the Gentn of the Council to take their Advice & writ Circulary Letters to have the Slaves, Convicts &c well observed & watched & given Orders for the Militia of the several Cties to be prepared to quell it in case any Insurrection should be occasioned by this Stroke, we are encouraging Subscriptions among the Gentn & People for the Defence & protection of the Frontiers, whereby I hope & expect to be enabled to raise a hundred or two Men in a very few Days, if the Burgesses in the several Cties do not oppose it as they lately did & persuaded the people that if the Govr should raise Money by such p. 142
Methods they must not hope to have any more Assemblies convened but that the people must expect & obey Orders of Council & Ordinances instead of Laws made by their Representatives & with their own Consent, thus may these Tribunes impose on the weak minds of the People & while they delude them with the empty sounds of Liberty & Priveledge most effectually contribute to their Destruction & the Loss of His Majestys Dominions indeed if the French wd determine to make the greatest use of their Victory I question whether 2000 Regular Troops with as many Indians would not descend to the Bay of Chesopeak such an opinion have I of our Militia wch are about 18000 & any Force that can be mustered in Vira to oppose them. While the above was writing a Gent from Potowmack came & informed me that the Courrier who brought the fatal News to Coll Innes said also that Sr Peter Halkett was among the slain & that Sr I St Clair had lost an Arm & was much wounded & also said that Colo Dunbar with the Rear & Baggage Guard consisting of abt 700 was retreating to Fort Cumberland, of the safety or Escape of any of the Rest I despair if what he further relates be true that with the French Regulars that attacked the Genl there were not less than 2000 Indians—

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] Letter Bk. II. p. 107

Iuly 15th 1755 To Govr Dinwiddie—

Sr

I have just now received a Copy of a Lettr directed to all whom it may concern which was sent by Colo Innes to Lord Fairfax the 11th Inst. & by him forwarded to you. The Gentn belonging to the Nova Scotia Regiments (who having not yet received any Letters from those two who went to wait on the General remain still in Town) have been with me desiring my Advice or Directions for their Conduct; as they were only

Letter Bk. II. ordered by their Instructions to receive & execute General Braddocks Commands, by this unhappy news they are entirely at a Loss what to do or how to act: they will tarry here at least to see if the melancholly Account be confirmed or till you can signify what you would have them do. If many Officers should be lost ought they not to offer their Service to the Regiments & raise men to compleat them instantly but in that Case where can they have money for they have not permission to draw on any Account whatever. I observe Col° Innes says all the Artillery is taken but as he does not mention any particulars nor by what means he received the Intelligence I know not what to think of the Affair. inclosed you have the last Acc^ts^ we have rec^d^ from whence perhaps you may form some Judgment how it happened. Our Gent^n^ are making subscriptions for the Defence of our Frontiers which will enable me I hope to have 100 or 200 men in arms within a very few Days for that purpose. You will not delay I hope to send your Opinion to me concerning the Gent^n^ whom I mentioned above & at whose Request I have taken this Oppor-
p. 108 tunity of Addressing you. Be pleased also to inform me whether or when you dispatch a Vessel with this news to England w^ch^ will oblige—

Letter Bk. I. p. 142

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Iuly 17. 1755

S^r^

By the inclosed which is transcribed from a Lett^r^ that I have this Inst received you will see w^t^ foundation or Grounds Col° Innes had for writing the Lett^r^ of w^ch^ you will find a Copy in mine dated the 15 Inst. I leave it to yourself to judge w^t^ might have happened or how far that Acco^t^ ought to be credited & related.

Mem^m^ Copies of these two last Lett^rs^ were sent to M^r^ W^m^ Sharpe

Original.

[Orme to Sharpe.]

Fort Cumberland Iuly 18^th^ 1755.

My Dear Sir

I am so extremely ill in bed with the wound I have reciev'd in my thigh that I am under the necessity of employing my friend Cap^t^ Dobson to write for me.

I conclude you have had some account of the action near the Banks of the Monongahela about seven miles from the French Fort, as the reports spread are very imperfect what you have heard must consequently be so to. You should have had more

early accounts of it but every officer whose business it was to have informed you was either killed or wounded, and our destressfull situation put it out of our powers to attend to it so much as we would otherwise have done.

The 9th Instant we passed and repass'd the Monongahela by advancing first a party of 300 men which was immediately follow'd by another of 200, the General with the Column of Artilery, Baggage and the main Body of the Army passed the river the last time about one o'clock; As soon as the whole had got on the Fort side of the Monongahela we heard a very heavy and quick fire in our front, we immediately advanced in order to sustain them, but the Detatchment of the 200 and 300 men gave way and fell back upon us which caused such confusion and struck so great a Pannick among our men that afterwards no military expedient could be made use of that had any effect upon them; the men were so extremely deaf to the exhortations of the General and the officers that they fired way in the most irregular manner all their amunition and then run off leaving to the Enemy the Artilery amunition Provision and Baggage nor could they be perswaded to stop till they got as far as Guust Plantation, nor these only in part many of them proceeding even as far as Coll Dunbars party who lay six miles on this side; The officers were absolutely sacrafised by their unparalel'd good behaviour, advancing sometimes in bodys & sometimes seperately hoping by such example to engage the Soldiers to follow them, but to no purpose.

The General had five horses shot under him and at last receiv'd a wound through his right arm into his Lungs of which he died the 18th Inst Poor Shirley was shot thro' the head, Capt Morris wounded, Mr Washington had two horses shot under him and his cloaths shot thro in several places behaving the whole time with the greatest courage and resolution. Sr Peter Halket was killed upon the spot Coll Burton and Sr John St Clair wounded, & Inclosed I have sent you a list of the Killed and wounded according to as exact an account as we are yet able to get.

Upon our proceeding with the whole convoy to the Little Meadows it was found impracticable to advance in that manner, the General therefore advanced with twelve hundred men with the necessary Artilery amunition & provision leaving the main body of the convoy under the Command of Coll Dunbar with orders to joyn him as soon as possible, in this manner we proceeded with safety and expedition till the fatal day I have just related and happy it was that this disposition was made otherwise the whole must have either starved or fallen into the hands of the Enemy as numbers would have been of no service to us, and our provision was all lost.

As our number of horses were so much reduced and those extremely weak, and many carriages being wanted for the wounded men, occasion'd our destroying the amunition and superfluous part of the provision left in Coll Dunbars Convoy to prevent its falling into the hands of the Enemy.

As the whole of the Artilery is lost and the troops are so extremely weakened by Deaths, Wounds and Sickness it was judged impossible to make any further Attempts, therefore Coll Dunbar is returning to Fort Cumberland with every thing he is able to bring with him

I propose remaining here till my wound will suffer me to remove to Philadelphia from thence shall make all possible despatch to England, whatever commands you may have for me you will do me the favour to direct to me here

I am with the greatest Sincerety
Your most obedient and most
Humble Servant
P^r^
Rob^t^ Orme

By the Particular desposition
of the French and Indians it is
impossible to judge of the numbers
they had that Day in the Field

As the Generals Chariot is to be desposed
of I should be glad to know if you would have it
again, it has been at this place since our departure from hence, if you propose taking of it again I will send it to you & bring the Generals Coach back. Cap^t^ Morris compliments attend you with M^r^ Washingtons.

P. S: Writing to you as a friend I flatter myself you will excuse the hurry in which this is wrote.

To The Hon^ble^ Governor Sharpe.

Original. [Peters to Sharpe.]

Sir

Was the Governor at home he woud make your Excellency his very hearty Acknowledgments for your Goodness in dispatching to him the Letters that came by Capt^n^ Slade.

Permit me to do this for him & to inform you that the Messenger arrivd here last night Tho the Letters are of an old Date yet they contain matters of Consequence respecting this Province & what we had not heard before. The Governor orderd me in his absence to open all publick Letters in order to know whether they shoud be forwarded or not. Upon these Directions I opened these and find that the mres in difference

between the Gov^{r} & his Assembly were heard by Council before the Lords of Trade on the sixth Day of May last & their Lordship have reported in favour of the Governor unanimously & affectionately and I hope all Parties will subside & enter for the future into no other Contest th^{n} who shall do the publick the most Service.

There is reason to think that two French Fleats and two English ones are arrivd and will knock heads together if they have not done it already. The French force is said to be 26 Capital Ships and the English Thirty two men of war besides Station Ships. Putting all the accounts together I think this may be reasonably deducd from them tho not wth absolute certainty.

We have no later news from the General than from his Camp on the 30th distant 35 miles from Fort Duquesne when all were well & in high spirits & full of Provisions.

I have the pleasure to assure you that by last Post the Gov^{r} of New York wrote to our Gov^{r} the agreable news of the whole Body of the Six Nations having declared in favour of his Majesty & his Arms & more offerd to joyn the Army than the several Legislatures had provided for joyful news this w^{ch} you will please to transmit to Gov^{r} Dinwiddie.

General Shirley is by this time at the carrying place between the Mohocks River & wood Creek running into the Onondago River. One Galley is already launchd of 36 Feet Keel and two more near being ready.

All looks well hitherto; if the General finds no opposition as I suspect he will not much, it appears to me that all the Force of Canada has vanishd away in an Instant, for we hear of none at Crown Point. none at Cataracqui none at Niagara. all are said to be on the Ohio & from there we have no accounts of any being arriv'd.

This may perhaps be the Case. that they have expected from France a General & Army and woud not come to any Determination untill the Arrival of the Reinforcements. now th^{t} they find these are retarded by the vigilance of the English Ministry they have sent their forces to the several Places of their Destination & the dry weather has prevented the Water Conveyance

I am

Your Excellencys
Most obedient
humble Servant
Richard Peters

Philad^{a}
18 July 1755.

Letter Bk. II. p. 113

[Sharpe to Robinson.]

Bladensburg. Iuly 23d [1755]

Rt Honourable

I am Sorry to have such an Occasion to write but as we have a Ship just about to depart I embrace the Opportunity to acquaint you that I have this Instant received a Letter from Capt Orme (who is at Fort Cumberland ill of his wounds) in which he gives me a brief Account of the unfortunate Engage-
p. 114 ment between the Troops commanded by General Braddock & the French from Fort Du Quesne on the Ninth Inst. In the morning of that Day the General passed the Monongahela twice the last time at about 7 miles from the French Fort; a Party of 300 men having passed the River advanced towards the Fort & was immediately followed by another of 200, the General with the Column of Artillery Baggage & the main Body of the Army got over about One o Clock when they heard a very heavy & quick Fire in the Front. the General with the main Body immediately advanced in Order to sustain them but the Advanced Detachments giving way & falling back on the main Body caused great Confusion & struck the Men with such a Pannick that afterwards no Military Expedient which could be used had any Effect they were deaf to the Exhortations of the General & the Officers who advancing sometimes in Bodies & sometimes seperately were sacrificed by the Soldiers declining to follow them. The General had five Horses shot under him before he received a wound thro his right arm into his Lungs of which he died the fourth Day after. Sr Peter Halkett & the General's Secretary were killed on the Spot. Sr Iohn St Clair is wounded but there is room to hope he will recover. The inclosed is a particular Account of the Officers that fell & of those that survived the Action, the Number of private Centinels killed & wounded is about 600. At the Little Meadows (which lye about 25 Miles westward from Fort Cumberland) The General finding it impracticable for all the Troops to advance farther together selected 1200 of the best & proceeded with the necessary
p. 115 Artillery Ammunition & Provision leaving the main Body of the Convoy under the Command of Colonel Dunbar who had Orders to join him as soon as possible. I collect from some former Letters which I received from the Camp that the General had only four Howitzers four 12 Lbs & 14 Cohorns with him from the Train which with the Ammunition Baggage & Provision are fallen into the hands of the Enemy. When Colo Dunbar (who I have reason to apprehend was about 40 miles behind the General was apprized of this fatal Accident finding the Troops extremely reduced & weakened by this

action & Sickness he judged it impossible to attempt any thing Letter Bk. II.
farther with probability of Success & is returning to Fort Cumberland with every thing that he is able to bring but as his Horses were reduced & much enfeebled & many Carriages wanted for the wounded men, to prevent their falling into the hands of the Enemy he has destroyed most of the Ammunition & the superfluous Provision that was left in his Care, Capt Orme does not describe to me the Situation of the Place where the Battle happened, how great was the Number of the Enemy, whether they consisted principally of Regular Troops or Indians or wherefore they permitted the English to bring off their wounded He only says By the particular Disposition of the French & Indians it is impossible to judge of the Numbers the Enemy had that Day in the Field. When I received this account I was on my way to Fort Cumberland with a number of Gent^{n} & Voluntiers who had entered into an Association to bear Arms & protect our Frontiers where Indian Parties have lately done much mischief, I shall now halt a little & expend a Sum of money (which the Council & Gent^{n} p. 116
of the Country had subscribed upon the Assembly's Refusal at their last meeting to grant any Supplies) in purchasing a quantity of fresh Provisions & such things as I think necessary for the Troops & then Escort them with such men as I can persuade to join me to Fort Cumberland where I expect to find Col^{o} Dunbar by that time arrived.† I am afraid Colonel Dunbar will not proceed again to Action this summer for want of a Train of Artillery & Ammunition neither do I think it will be an easy matter to reinforce him speedily for tho there are not I suppose in these 3 Colonies less than 80000 Men fit to bear Arms yet for want of such a Militia Law as the Eastern Colonies enjoy the Benefit of & our Assemblies will not hear of, the People have no last or Notion of Arms or Military Duty & fruitless are all our Endeavours to persuade them to unite their force & exert it for their common safety—

A Letter was also sent at the same time to Lord Albemarle which was litterally the same with the above so far as arrived† it then proceeded as follows.

[Sharpe to Albemarle.]

"It grieves me to see near 20000 Men in this Province fit to bear Arms & yet for want of an effectual Militia Law which has been frequently recommended to our Assembly in vain not 100 are obliged or to be prevailed on to Exort some Provisions out or even to act in their own Defence. Thus much I have writ to the Secretary of State but my Lord hoping

Letter Bk. II. you will excuse the Liberty I presume to hint my Opinion farther to your Lordship. You have been ee'r this informed what is doing to the Northward; that Colonel Monkton has succeeded in Nova Scotia to the utmost of his Expectations we have lately had the Satisfaction to hear & we also entertain very sanguine hopes that Colonel Johnson with the Provincial Troops will make a successful Attempt on Crown Point (Fort
p. 117 Frederick) as we are told the Garrison therein is at this time very inconsiderable, Governor Shirley's & S^{r} W Pepperell's Regiments are at this time engaged in making Oswego Fort more defensible & in building Gallies on Ontario Lake whereby it is hoped they will be Masters thereof & be enabled to make an easy Descent on the French Fort at Niagara. but should the French from the Ohio immediately reinforce their Garrison at that place before Shirley can execute the Business or Part he undertook to act at this time, his Enterprize may be also rendered abortive & himself be obliged to act on the Defensive only, however I entertain warm hopes that by fortifying on Ontario Lake & building Vessels thereon he will secure the Navigation thro it & cut off all Communication between Canada & the Ohio by water. I think that the Militia Law which has been lately made by the Legislature of New York will remove & obviate any Difficulty that there might otherwise have been in conveying him Provisions which I beleive are seldom scarce in that Province & can be Water-born almost from N York to Oswego. If the Ohio Garrison can be thus deprived of Supplies from Canada I think they cannot but be greatly distressed for want of Provision shortly, & will no doubt make Incursions into & supply themselves from these three defenceless Colonies which however we could easily prevent if our People would but be persuaded of the Necessity of a Law to regulate the Militia as I suppose Y^{r} Ldp will think when you are told that we have in this Province 18.000 Men fit to bear Arms. Could some Artillery be procured & w^{d} these Colonies unite & exert themselves, the Season is not yet too far advanced to pursue the General's plan by attacking Fort du Quesne in
p. 118 the temperate months of 7^{ber} 8^{ber} & 9^{ber} but as we have no Artillery in this Part of His Majestys Dominions, & there being little Probability of the Colonies uniting or acting with unanimity, I am afraid the Troops under the Command of Colo. Dunbar will scarcely proceed to Action again before Instructions can be received from England unless he marches with some of them Northward to support Shirley or to Enfort himself somewhere in the distant Parts of Pensilv^{a} near the Easternmost Branch of the Ohio River. I am apt to think as I above hinted that what the French will now have principally in view & will leave no Stone unturned to accomplish is the

making themselves masters of the Lake Ontario & indeed that Letter Bk. II.
Acquisition seems to be of such Consequence or rather so absolutely necessary for the well-being of their Troops on the Ohio & elsewhere to the Southward that I shall not be surprized to hear that they have bent the whole strength of Canada against Governor Shirley, & tho they should not succeed against him this summer yet I am persuaded that that important Post will not be secured as it ought to be untill General Shirley be well succoured either from England or by the Colonies

A Letter was also transmitted at the same time to W^m^ Sharpe Esq beginning as follows.

[Sharpe to William Sharpe.]

D^r^ Brother

My Letter of the 15^th^ will I doubt not make you very impatient & anxious to know what has been the Event of the Engagement which happened between the Troops commanded by General Braddock &c the same as the Lett^r^ to Ld Baltimore then proceeds: fress Provisions & such things as I think necessary for the Troops & shall perhaps persuade some Men p. 119
to join & Escort them to Fort Cumberland if I do not proceed thither myself, I shall soon be able to learn whether Colo Dunbar will venture on action again before he receives Instructions from England or whether he determines to remain only on the Defensive. if he is inclined to the first I suppose we must meet our Assemblies once more & endeavour to get him reinforced & a Sufficiency of Ammunition & Provisions. I do not think the Season is yet too far advanced to make an Attempt on the Fort before Winter if these Colonies will unite & exert themselves & if a few Battering Pieces & Artillery Stores can be timely got from New York. Now it is likely these three Colonies will sensibly feel the want of a proper Militia Law but I still despair of persuading the Assembly to prepare one or of taking any other proper measure for the Security or real welfare of their Country. Nothing has been left untried by some of those Patriots to interrupt & prevent the Subscription I before spoke of but I beleive notwithstanding their Opposition £2000 will be contributed by the Gent^n^ for the Support of a Company to range on our Frontiers. if Shirley too should meet with any Disappointments on Ontario to what a Condition will these Colonies thro the Obstinacy & Parcimony of a few be brought & what a vast Acquisition will the French have made on this Continent while we are infatuated to look on as idle Spectators & as if we were not interested in the

Letter Bk. II. Event of the Campaign. That the Enemy know the Value & Importance of the Lakes I am fully persuaded as I am that they will employ all the Force to render Shirley's Scheme
p. 120 abortive but I flatter myself that the Spirit of the Northern Colonies will not let him want Succours & I have such an Opinion of his Abilities as to think he will make the best use of them. I have writ to Ld Albermarle the Lett[r] inclosed & therein taken the Liberty to intimate my Opinion concerning the present Posture of our Affairs on this Continent. I have also transmitted a Lett[r] to S[r] Tho[s] Robinson by this same conveyance—

Letter Bk. I. p. 143

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Bladensburg Iuly 23[d] 1755. transmitted by Capt a Duplicate was sent to his Ldp at the same time by a Ship to Bristol.

Sir

I am sorry to have such an Occasion to write but as we have a Ship just about to sail I embrace the Opportunity to acquaint you that I have this Instant received a Letter from Capt Orme (who is at Fort Cumberland ill of his wounds) in which he gives me a brief Account of the unfortunate Engagement between the Troops commanded by General Braddock & the French from Fort Du Quesne on the 9[th] Inst. In the morning of that Day the General crossed the Monongahela twice the last time at about 7 Miles from the French Fort: A Party of 500 Men having passed the River advanced toward the Fort & was immediately followed by another of 200, the General with the Column of Artillery Baggage & the main Body of the Army got over about one o Clock when they heard a very heavy & quick Fire in the Front. the General & the main Body immediately advanced in Order to sustain them but the two advanced Detachments giving way & falling back on the main Body caused great Confusion & the Men were struck with such a Pannick that afterwards no military Expedient which could be used had any Effect they were deaf to the Exhortations of the General & the Officers who advancing sometimes in Bodies & sometimes seperately were sacrificed by the Soldiers declining to follow them. The General had 5 Horses shot under him before he received a wound thro his right Arm into his Lungs of which he died the fourth Day after S[r] Peter Halkett & the Generals Secretary were killed on the Spot S[r] Iohn S[t] Clair is wounded but there is room to hope he will recover the inclosed is a particular Account of the Officers that fell & of those that survived the Action. The Number of private Centinels killed & wounded is about

600. My Last Letter dated the 15th will inform you that Letter Bk. I.
at the little Meadows the General finding it impracticable p. 144
for all the Troops to advance farther together selected 1200
of the Best & proceeded with as much of the Artillery
Ammunition & provision as he thought necessary leaving
the main Body of the Convoy under the Command of Colonel
Dunbar who had Orders to join him as soon as possible.
The four Howitzers & 4 twelve Pounders & 14 Cohorns that
the General had with him with the Ammunition Baggage
& Provision are fallen into the hands of the Enemy. when
Colonel Dunbar (who I have reason to apprehend was about
40 miles behind the General) was apprized of this fatal Accident
finding the Troops extremely reduced & weakened by this
Action & Sickness he judged it impossible to attempt any
thing with them at that time with Probability of Success is
returning to Fort Cumberland with every thing that he is able
to bring with him but as his Horses were reduced & much
enfeebled & many Carriages wanted for the wounded Men,
to prevent their falling into the hands of the Enemy he has
destroyed most of the Ammunition & the superfluous Provision
that was left to his Care Capt Orme does not describe to me
the Situation of the Place where the Battle happened how great
was the Number of the Enemy & whether they consisted
principally of regular Troops or Indians. When I received
this Account I was on my way to Fort Cumberland with a
Number of Gentn & Voluntiers who had entered into an Asso-
ciation to bear Arms & protect our Frontiers I shall now halt
at Frederickton & if I find the Troops are not well supplied
shall expend part of a Sum of Money (which the Council &
Gentn of the Country had subscribed upon the Assembly's
Refusal at their last Meeting to grant any Supplies) in pur-
chasing a Quantity of fresh Provisions & such things as I think
necessary for the Troops & escort them with such Men as I
can persuade to join me to Fort Cumberland where I expect
in case I go thither to find Colo Dunbar by that time arrived.
I shall then learn what he proposes to do & if he shall resolve
to make another Attempt before he can receive Instructions
from home I shall perhaps be under a necessity of meeting the p. 145
Assembly again & solliciting them to send him a Reinforcement
& a quantity of Provisions & Ammunition. The Subscripsion
that has been made will at least enable me to keep up a Com-
pany of Rangers for the Protection of the Frontiers, but I am
afraid if Colo Dunbar should retreat to Pensa (which I do not
think unlikely) the Distant Inhabitants will desert their Habita-
tions rather than live in fear & Apprehensions of the Incur-
sions of the French & their Indians

I am Sir &c.

Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

11th of August 1755 transmitted by Capt Garnet, & a Duplicate by Capt Carrol.

Sr

The 23d of July I addressed a Lettr to his Ldp & another to yourself acquainting you with the fatal Engagement that had happened near the Banks of the Monongahela. I was then proceeding Westward with an Intention to send up a Supply of fresh Provisions & Wine to Fort Cumberland which I imagined the Troops must have been in great need of. On my Arrival at Conegogee which is 30 Miles beyond Frederick Town I was informed that they had plenty of every thing at the Camp & that Colo Dunbar had determined & was about to leave Fort Cumberland & to march with the Remains of the two Regiments & the three Independant Companies to Phila This News so soon after the Depredations of the Indians & the General's Defeat had much alarmed & thrown our distant Inhabitants into great Consternation, they concluded that when the Troops should retire from the Frontiers the Enemy would repeat & renew their Devastations & that twas better for them to fly naked & leave their habitations than remain an easy Prey to an enraged & cruel Enemy, who may now have free & uninterrupted Access to these two infatuated & defenceless Colonies, some that were retiring to their Friends in the more populous Parts of this & the neighbouring Provinces I persuaded to return back with Assurances that a sufficient Body of Troops would be left at Fort Cumberland
p. 146 for the Security of that Place & that I would take proper Measures to prevent the Inroads & Incursions of any French or Indian Parties which I hope will be effectually done by the small Forts that I have ordered to be built, one on Tonallaway Creek & three under the North Mountain in each of which I shall place a small Garrison with Orders to them to patroll from one to the other & to Fort Cumberland & in case of Alarms to receive the neighbouring Families into their Protection. The Subscription that has been made in this County & some other Parts of the Province has enabled me to take this Step for the Security of our Frontiers & to continue on foot the Maryland Company which the late Resolves of the Lower House had made me desire the General to distribute between the two Regiments. The Virg Assembly is again convened & that of Pens is also sitting as you will see by one of the inclosed Gazetts they have given the Governor room to expect £50000 will be granted at this time for his Majestys Service but I am told they propose to raise it by a Land Tax to which the Proprietary's unpatented Land will be likewise subjected, if they still insist upon such unreasonable

Points I presume they will soon be dismissed as heretofore Letter Bk. I.
in that case I shall not meet our People at all but if the Pensilvanians prepare such a Bill as the Governor can accept I shall immediately convene our Assembly in hopes that as they have heretofore been they will continue Imitators of the Quakers Conduct. Inclosed you have an Exact & proper Return of the Officers & Men that fell in the Action of the 9th of July of those that were wounded & of them that escaped unhurt. since that time some have died of their wounds at Fort Cumberland where the Hospital is still kept. It was as surprizing a Defeat I think as has been heared of, for 'tis supposed that the Indians that that Day opposed General Braddock were not less than 1500 or 2000 & yet none of the English that were engaged will say they saw a hundred & many of the Officers who were in the Heat of the Action the whole time will not assert that they saw one Enemy, it seems they had most advantageously posted themselves behind the large Trees that grew on the Eminences or Hills that were on the Right Flank & in the Front of our Troops, thence they fired irregularly on the p. 147
English beneath them who being in a compact Body became a fair mark to their Enemies against whom they fired in platoons almost as fast as they could load, without doing as I conceive any great Execution. The men had not been used to nor had any Idea of this kind of fighting, which disperited them & soon threw them into Confusion they refused to obey the Voice of their Officers & having wasted all their Ammunition retired in great Disorder leaving the Enemy Masters of the Field & of all the Artillery Ammunition Baggage & every thing that had passed the River, it is supposed that 800 or 900 Stand of Arms have fallen into the Enemies hands & that what Colonel Dunbar by the General's Orders destroyed was worth at that place £100000 Sg this Loss of all the Artillery except four 6 Lbers which Colo Dunbar has taken with him together with the Loss of so many Officers & the Disability of many that survive to enter again on Action as also the present Condition of the Troops who have been harrassed almost to death by the Laborious Campaign they have made has determined Colo Dunbar to retire from Fort Cumberland which Step I think the present Temper & Disposition of the Troops must incline any one who saw & conversed with them to approve I have not lately received any Lettr from the Northwd but the Gazetts inform us that the Troops in Nova Scotia have succeeded to their Wishes having dispossessed the French of all the Forts that they had built in that part of the Continent. I flatter myself with hopes that Colo Johnson will reduce Crown Point which is I hear but weakly garrisoned at this time but I confess I am not quite so sanguine in my Expectations con-

Letter Bk. I. cerning General Shirleys Attempt. A Reinforcement we hear is gone to Niagara from Fort Du Quesne since General Braddocks Defeat & I am persuaded they will leave nothing untried to interrupt him in his Opperations & to prevent his making himself Master of Ontario Lake. Admiral Boscawen
p. 148 is still cruizing off of Louisburg & Nova Scotia but I have not heard any farther Accounts of his Success, which makes us afraid that the Rest of the French Fleet have given him the Slip. You herewith receive the Journals of the two House's Proceedings at their last Meeting the Laws are not yet printed: I have been told that some of the Members who govern Affairs in the lower House are very busy in promoting an Association among them & their Adherents & persuading them to engage at their own Expence to bring the Affair of the Ordinary Lycences & the Roman Catholicks to a Hearing before his Majestys Council for w^ch^ purpose it is said two of the Burgesses who have approved themselves Patriots are to embark for England as soon as a sufficient Association is formed to bear the Expence of such a proceeding. It is long since I had the Satisfaction to hear from you which makes me apprehend some Letter has miscarried. Please to deliver the inclosed & beleive me to be &c.

Letter Bk. II. p. 120

[Sharpe to Robinson.]

To Sir Thomas Robinson August 11. 1755—

R^t^ Honble

The 23^d^ of July I took the Liberty to acquaint you with General Braddock's Misfortune & that I was proceeding to Fort Cumberland to tender my Services to Col^o^ Dunbar & his Majesty's Troops that were returned thither I was glad to find at my Arrival that there was no want of fresh provisions among them but the Col^o^ had given Orders to the two Regiments & the Independant Companies to hold themselves in readiness to march for Phil^a^ last Saturday sennight While I was there Col^o^ Dunbar called a Council of War at which I was desired to attend & with the other Gent^n^ give my Opinion on the present situation of Affairs in America & whether his Leading out his Majestys Forces again immediately to attack the French Forts on the Ohio River would be expedient or conducive to his Majestys Service He informed me that all the Artillery & Stores excepting four 6 Lbrs were either fallen into the Enemy's hands or had been destroyed by the General's Order after the Engagement. this is a Loss that cannot be
p. 121 repaired in these Colonies where there is scarcely any military Stores not even Musquets but what have been lately sent to Virg^a^ by his Majestys gracious Order. This Consideration

together with the want of Officers as well as Men & Camp Equipage, the Disposition & weakness of those that have made the last & above all the want of a Fund to defray the Expences of another Campaign occured as Arguments against his Marching immediately to act on the Offensive or to pursue the plan that the General had proposed to prosecute wherefore he has put the Resolution he had before taken in Execution & is returning to Phil[a] in Expectation I presume of receiving there General Shirley's Letters or Instructions. The several Companies that have been raised & supported by the Gov[ts] of Virg[a] N Carolina & Maryland are left to garrison Fort Cumberland & to protect the Frontiers of these Provinces till something farther can be done for their security & for his Majestys Service. With due respect &c— Letter Bk. II.

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Aug[st] 11[th] 1755—

S[r]

Yours dated the 31[st] July I received last Thursday on my Return from Fort Cumberland whither the unwelcome News of General Braddock's Misfortune & the Consternation & Apprehensions of our distant Inhabitants had carried me, I had procured & was sending away some Beeves & wine from Conegogee to the Camp imagining the Troops there may have wanted such necessaries when I was advised that they had the greatest plenty of both & that Col[o] Dunbar was preparing to march with the Remains of the two Regiments & the Independant Companies to Phil[a] This last Acco[t] had more alarmed our back Inhabitants than the Generals Defeat they concluded that they should be now left exposed to the Incursions of the Indians & an easy prey to a victorious & cruel Enemy. Some that wer retiring to the more populous parts of the Province I persuaded to return with me & encouraged many others who entertained thoughts of removing to remain on their plantations by promising them that some effectual measures should be instantly taken for their Protection & security. Accordingly I have ordered some small Forts to be constructed in the distant Parts of the Province to which the neighbouring Families may resort in case of an alarm & unite with the Garrisons which are composed of some Voluntiers that went out so far with me. The Expence of this I shall be enabled to defray by the subscription that has been made here for such purposes & out of the same Fund I shall support Capt Dagworthys Company that was with the General which is now with the Virg[a] Forces at Fort Cumberland the last of July when I reached the Camp Col[o] Dunbar gave Orders to the Troops to put themselves in p. 122

Letter Bk. II. readiness to march the Saturday following but Friday morning he sent to me desiring I would give my Attendance at a Council that he had called upon the Receipt of your Letter. The proposition or question submitted to us was whether he should march again immediately to attack Fort Du Quesne against which we were unanimous & I think you would not have been of a contrary Opinion had you seen the Troops & been acquainted with their Disposition & wants, You know I presume how much of the Artillery Ammunition Stores & Camp Equipage fell into the Enemy's hands & how much Col°
p. 123 Dunbar destroyed by the Order of the General before he died. he has scarcely any thing left beside 4 six pounders which he has taken with him to Pens[a] You have been informed how many Officers were lost in the Action & how many of those that survived it are unable to undertake another Campaign. All the Generals Instructions & Papers being lost Col° Dunbar is unacquainted what Powers he had & is cautious how he ventures to do any thing but what absolute Necessity requires. The Soldiers who escaped are wasted with fatigue & so much dispirited that I question if Orders to march westward would not incline half of them to desert their Colours. The Destruction of so many Horses & Waggons for which the Owners have no immediate prospect of being satisfied will vastly increase the Difficulty of getting either in these Provinces & as there has been no Fund established by the Colonies, & Colo Dunbar will not draw Bills as the General did, I do not conceive that 'twould be possible to attempt any thing at present with probability of Success. I do not apprehend that the French whatever the Indians may will come yet a while on this side the mountains but in case they should the Engineers are of Opinion with me that twould be impossible to defend Fort Cumberland against any number of them or against any Artillery therefore you will conclude that it is not a very proper place for a grand Magazine. Those Gent[n] tell me there is an Eminence about 16 miles lower down the River just at the Forks of Potowmack both which it commands that is the best if not the only place in that part of the Country, which would be easily rendered strong & defensible. Mess[rs] M[c]Kellar & Gordon promised me to review it again as soon as they were able & to send me a Plan of such Works as they would advise
p. 124 us to have constructed thereon which I will send you & if you approve thereof will join with you in having them perfected immediately a place of Strength somewhere on our Frontiers I think the present posture of Affairs requires & I know of no other spot so proper & convenient but what is commanded by some adjacent Hills as is the Case with Fort Cumberland; from This I would propose to have a Line of small Forts or

Block Houses built in both provinces & if it can be so agreed Letter Bk. II.
in Pens[a] also whereby I think the Enemy would be deterred from sending any more parties to commit Devastations on our Borders by the Difficulty they would find in securing a Retreat. I see by the Gazette that the Pens[a] Assembly has given Gov[r] Morris Room to expect a Sum of money from them at this time for his Majestys Service, if they prepare such a Bill as he can accept I shall immediately summon ours to meet in hopes they will as heretofore follow the Quaker's Example—

[Sharpe to William and John Sharpe.]

August 11[th] [1755]

D[r] B[r]

The 23[d] of July I gave you as particular an Acco[t] as I had then been able to get of the fatal Engagement that happened between the English Troops commanded by Gen[l] Braddock & the Indians & French from Fort du Quesne on the 9[th] of that Month; from Bladensburg whence that Letter was dated I proceeded the Day after towards Fort Cumberland whither I was about to send some fatted Oxen & Wine (which I imagined the Troops must have wanted) when I was informed that they had plenty of every thing at the Camp & that Colo. Dunbar p. 125
was preparing to march thence w[th] the Remains of the two Regiments & the Independant Companies to Phil[a] This last Intelligence I found had thrown our distant Inhabitants into the greatest Consternation the late Depredations of the Indians & the news of the Generals misfortune had almost determined them to retire towards the more populous parts of the Country but now they no longer hesitated concluding that when Col[o] Dunbar should draw off the Troops from our Borders the Enemy would instantly renew & repeat their Devastations & that twas better for them to relinquish their Possessions at once than remain where they must become an easy prey to an enraged & victorious Enemy. this convinced me that my Journey to Fort Cumberland thro the Country was more expedient than I had before conceived & I was glad to find that my Presence & the promises that I made them that I would take effectual measures for their Protection & security prevailed on some that I met retreating & on others that had passed me to return back & resolve to remain on their respective Plantations. I ordered some small Forts to be constructed at proper places in the distant parts of the province to which the neighbouring Families may resort in case of Danger or Alarms these Forts I have garrisoned with small parties of Voluntiers that I carried up with me who have Orders to be continually patrolling from

Letter Bk. II. one to the other to keep the Communication between the Inhabitants open & if Indian Parties venture to make Incursions to give the Alarm & dispose themselves in such a manner as to cut off their Retreat. The Expence hereof I shall be enabled
p. 126 to defray by the Subscripsion that has been made & out of the same Fund I shall support the Maryland Company that was with the General which is now at Fort Cumberland with the N Carolina & the Remains of the Virg[a] Forces. I found by Col[o] Dunbar & the other Officers that I visited at the Fort that there had been many unhappy Divisions in the Army that General Braddock commanded, Himself & the two Colonels were scarcely on speaking Terms & very few beside four or five Favourites mention him with Regret. It has been hinted to me that in case he had succeeded against the Fort the several Companies that have been raised in & that are supported by these Provinces would have been regimented & given to Lieut[t] Col[o] Burton of Dunbars, Capt Morris one of the Aid de Camps was to have been Lieut[t] Col[o] & Capt Dobson Major & Capt Orme the other Aid de Camp was to have succeeded Burton as Lieut[t] Colonel in the Regiment that Dunbar commands. This it is said the General requested by Letters that were sent home before the Action but possibly the unhappy Turn that Affairs have now taken may prevent the Ministry's Compliance with the Request. Inclosed you have an Exact & Regimental Return of the Officers & Men that fell in the Action, of them that were wounded & those that escaped unhurt. Some few have since died of their wounds at Fort Cumberland where the Hospital yet remains. S[r] I S[t] Clair was shot thro the Body under the Right Pap but is in a fair way to recover & I expect him here in a fortnight or three weeks. It was I think as extraordinary a Defeat as ever was heard of, tis supposed that the Indians who that Day opposed
p. 127 General Braddock were not less than 1500 or 2000 yet none of the English that were engaged saw more than 100 & many of the Officers as well as Men who were the whole time of its Continuance in the Heat of the Action will not assert that they saw an Enemy. When the Detachment of 300 commanded by Lieut[t] Col[o] Gage was beyond the River about ¾ of a Mile they were fired on from an Eminence or small Hill which they were about to ascend, upon which they returned the Fire & halted till S[r] I S[t] Clair with the Detachment of 200 came up the General immediately hurried on the main Body to sustain them while the Enemy who consisted almost entirely of Indians (or French in Indian dress) extended themselves all along the Hill which was on the General's right Flank & posting themselves severally behind the large Trees that grew thereon fired in Security & did great Execution. The novelty of such Fight-

ing struck our Troops with Amazement & Terror they found Letter Bk. II.
themselves destroyed by an invisible Enemy & were soon thrown
into the greatest Confusion. some Companies that attempted
to ascend the Hill were broke by the Fire of their Friends who
confounded them with the Enemy. In this melancholly situation
the Men were kept more than three Hours when having con-
sumed all their Ammunition they retired in the greatest Disorder
& left the Field & every thing thereon to the Enemy who did
not attempt to pursue them beyond the River but immediately
fell to Scalping those that were killed or unable to get off &
then returned with the Artillery & Plunder to the French Fort.
The General had unhappily all his Papers, His Majesty's
Instructions & the Plan of Opperations that was concerted at
Alexandria with him which fell into the Enemy's hands, & a
Prisoner who is escaped thence asserts that the 2d Day after p. 128
the Battle a great number of the Indians departed from the
Fort with a Design as he supposes by their Rout to give Govr
Shirley a meeting at Niagara. I think the General had with
him 52 Carriages the Artillery & 18 Waggon Loads of
Ammunition included, beside near 100 Beeves that had been
driven up to him two Days before. As soon as he was
brought back to Colo Dunbar's Camp he gave Orders for
the Destruction of all the Ammunition & Artillery that
Dunbar had with him except two 6 Lbrs & all the super-
fluous provision, in pursuance of these Orders near 150
Waggons were burnt, the Powder Casks staved in a spring
the Cohorns broke or buried & the Shells bursted. the
Provisions were scattered abroad on the Ground or the
Barrels broke & thrown into the water. soon after this was
executed the General dying was buried privately in the Road
& Col Dunbar immediately retreated to Fort Cumberland
where he staid 9 or 10 Days & then marched for Phila there I
suppose he will expect Letters & Instructions from Govr
Shirley how to dispose of himself till he can receive farther
Directions from home for his Conduct. Upon the Receipt of
this news Govr Dinwiddie has again convened his Assembly,
that of Pensa is also sitting & have given the Govr Room to
expect £50000 will be now granted by them for his Majestys
Service, if they prepare such a Bill as the Govr can accept I
will also call our People together on the same Occasion, but if
the Quakers still persevere in their Obstinacy, I shall not p. 129
put the Country to the Expence for I am convinced that if
the Pensilvanians set an ill one our Assembly will follow their
Example. I have not received any Lettrs from the Northwd
but according to the Gazettes Colo Johnson should e'er this be
before Crown Point & I flatter myself with hopes that he will
not find great Difficulty in reducing it, the Forces in Nova

Letter Bk. II. Scotia have succeeded to their wish having dispossessed the French of all the Forts they had built in that part of the Continent, The Papers tell us that several French Ships are blockt up in the Harbour of Louisburg by the English Squadron & that tis supposed the Rest of the French Fleet are gone up S^{t} Lawrence's River. In case of another Campaign agst Fort Du Quesne I am of Opinion there ought to be two or at least 1000 of our Woodsmen or Hunters who are marks-men & used to Rifles to preceed the Army & engage the Indians in their own way.

Original. [Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Aug^{t} 22^{d} 1755

D^{r} Sir

The Person who presents you this is M^{r} Stephen's, the Author Publish'd of a Treatise. The method & plain Process for making Pot-Ash having proved the Success by the Province of Massachuset's Bay, where he has a Furnace for that purpose, he has rec^{d} encouragement by Parliament, he acquaints me he designs shortly for America, where he intends to take a Tour thro the British Provinces, in order to establish so Beneficial a Commodity among the rest he hopes in Maryland. His Lord^{p} is sensible of the Utility of his Scheme, therefore desires all Favour from you to him, as does him who is with peculiar Esteem

Yours Sincerely

Cæcil^{s} Calvert.

To

His Ex^{y} Horatio Sharpe Esq^{r}

Letter Bk. II. p. 129 [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Augst 23^{d} 1755—

S^{r}

By y^{r} Express who is just returned hither from N York I have received a Lett^{r} from Gen^{l} Shirley together with Copies of his Lett^{r} & Instructions to Col^{o} Dunbar on the Receipt of that w^{ch} you sent him. As Gen^{l} Shirley tells me he has sent you Copies also I will not delay your Express longer than to acquaint you that I suppose Col^{o} Dunbar concluding from the
p. 130 Resolutions of the Pens^{a} Assembly that there was little Probability of his being sufficiently reinforced or assisted by these three Governm^{ts} to make another Attempt on Fort Du Quesne is proceeding in obedience to the Generals former Instructions dated the 6 Inst. towards N York or the Western Parts of that

Province which as he has left us I hope he will be able to reach time enough to be of Service to the Northern Expeditions. Gov[r] Morriss Lett[r] dated the 20[th] together with the Journal of his Assembly's proceedings which I presume you will also by this Opportunity receive from him fully convince me that nothing effectual will be ever done by these Colonies without the Compulsion of an Act of Parliament, in case the Pensilvanians had shewed a different Disposition I should as I before hinted to you have met our People instantly but as their Behaviour has been such as I would not wish to see our Assembly who are fond of following such Precedents imitate there is little room for me to expect any thing from them were they to be convened however I shall consult the Council thereon this morning & proceed according to their Advice; in the mean time we shall endeavour to encourage the Subscripsion that has been set on foot whereby I hope to be enabled to support 80 or 100 men for the Protection of our Frontiers & to join with you in executing what I intimated to you in my last or any other Scheme that may conduce to our mutual Security, You have learnt from Col[o] Innes what motions the Enemy are making on the other side the mountains & how matters are at Fort Cumberland whereupon the Hospital is removed down to Frederick-town in this province & if the Enemy should come against the Fort with any considerable number of Men & Artillery I am apt to think the Gov[r] should have Orders to set fire to it & retire after destroying whatever he may find himself unable to bring off— Letter Bk. II. p. 131

[Robinson to Sharpe.] Original.

Whitehall 28[th] August 1755

Sir.

The Lords Justices having thought it necessary to appoint, without Loss of Time, a Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, in the room of the late Major General Braddock, who was killed in the unfortunate Affair, of the 9[th] of last Month, on the Mononghela; I am to acquaint you, that Major General Shirley is ordered to take upon him, till His Majesty's farther Pleasure shall be signifyed, that Command, with like Powers, with which Major General Braddock held the same, and as M[r] Shirley is furnished with Copies of every Order, Letter & Instruction, that has been sent from hence at any Time, to, or received from his Predecessor, you may correspond with him, & apply to him upon every occasion, & upon all Points in such manner as you was empowered to do, to Major General Braddock, & you will not only regularly observe

such Directions, as you shall receive from him thereupon, But will also transmit to Him forthwith, Copies of your whole Correspondence, with the late Major General Braddock since his first arrival in North America.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
T Robinson

Deputy Gov^{r} of Maryland.

Letter Bk. II. p. 131

[Sharpe to Morris.]

August 29th 1755—

S^{r}

I detain Gover^{r} Dinwiddie's Express a moment to acknowledge by him the Receipt of your Favour of the 20th I am sorry to learn that not even the present melancholly situation of Affairs in this quarter could weigh with your Assembly to grant some Supplies in such a manner as you could accept them, the Example they have set is too grateful to our Folks for me to give them an Opportunity of pursuing a similar scheme or expressing themselves in such Language unless I shall receive more particular Instructions from England, or the Enemy make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland, which by w^{t} I can find Gov^{r} Innes begins to expect. It is said that his Command a fortnight ago consisted of only 160 Men, if they have since gone off in the same proportion I shall next expect to hear it is entirely relinquished. The Indians have done a good Deal of Mischief in several parts of Virg^{a} but they have not made our people any Visits since the Engagement, however the distant Inhabitants are so terrified at the Reports they hear that they are leaving their Plantations very vast & retreating
p. 132 to the more populous parts of the Country. As I have not heard any thing of Coll Dunbar's Return towards us again I presume he is proceeding to join General Shirley where I hope he will arrive time enough to be of some Service but I can tell him 'twill not a little chagrine Governor Dinwiddie who cannot bear to think of leaving Fort Du Quesne unattempted again this Summer—I have already intimated to S^{r} Tho^{s} Robinson how defenceless we are (notwithstanding our Numbers) for want of a proper Militia Law which I have told him has often & will be always in vain sollicited from our Assembly, whether Gov^{r} Dinwiddie prevailed with the Assembly of that province the other Day to pass one I know not otherwise He will I doubt not write also to the ministry on the same Subject—

[Sharpe to Shirley.] Letter Bk. II.

August 29th 1755—

Dr Genl

I take this Opportunity by a young Gentn one Mr West who is ambitious of serving under your Command to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Favr of the 13th together with a Copy of your Lettr & Instructions to Colo Dunbar. I presume the Colo Concluding from the Resolutions of the Pensa Assembly that little was to be expected from either of these Provinces p. 133 towards carrying on another Expedition to the westward till the Legislature of great Britain shall compell us is proceeding to receive your immediate Commands in the Province of N York. The Provincial Troops that were left to Garrison Fort Cumberland I hear desert daily. near a fortnight since they had reduced themselves to 160, & Govr Innes tells me he is not without Apprehensions of being attacked or invested by the French & their Indians, who according to some Intelligence he has lately received have discovered & dug up the Artillery & Stores that Colo Dunbar buried in his Retreat, & were about to construct some place of Defence at Coll Dunbars Encampment. The Virga Assembly has granted £40000 for the service & Govr Dinwiddie speaks of raising 1200 men therewith & sending them to build a Fort somewhere near the meadows or just over the Alleganny Hills, but I doubt he will scarcely execute such a scheme for it will require no small number of Men to protect the Frontiers of that Province wch have been much infested by Indians since Generl Braddock's misfortune. The Inhabitants who dwelt in the distant parts of Virga on New River & that called Green Brier have all left their Plantations: Our People too have many of them fled to the more populous Parts of the Country tho no Enemy has lately appeared on this side Potowmack River—Beside Capt Dagworthys Company (that followed the Genl) which is now p. 134 at Fort Cumberland we have a Command of 20 on our Frontiers which are supported by a subscription till some Lettrs from England shall determine our Controversies & give me room to meet our Assembly & ask them for Supplies with greater probability of being regarded more than I have hitherto been when I mentioned such a Subject. Wishing you Success &c I am

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 148

[Augt. 1755]

M Lord

In my Lettr dated the 23d of July I gave your Ldp an Accot of General Braddock's Misfortune near the Banks of the Monongahela & acquainted your Ldp that I was then pro-

Letter Bk. I. ceeding towards Wills-Creek principally with a view of Encouraging the distant Inhabitants to remain on their Plantations which the Terror of the Indian's Incursions & the alarming News of the General's ill Success inclined them to relinquish & desert. those that I met flying from the Frontiers I prevailed on to return back & by ordering some small Forts to be built at proper Distances from each other in the Western Part of Frederick County whereunto the People may resort in case of Alarms, I hope I have made & left them pretty well satisfied & contented. Each of those Forts I have garrisoned with a few men who have my Orders to patroll from one to the other & keep the Communication free & open. These Men I am enabled to support by a subscription that has been made
p. 149 by the Gentlemen of this & some of the other Counties & from the same Fund I subsist the Maryland Company commanded by Capt Dagworthy that marched with the General but which is now left with the Virg[a] & N Carolina Troops at Fort Cumberland under the Command of Governor Innes. Col[o] Dunbar with the Remains of the two Regiments & the 3 Independant Companies is on his march to Phil[a] where I suppose he will receive some Lett[rs] from General Shirley & Instructions for the Disposition of the Troops. The Loss of the greatest part of the Artillery Ammunition & Camp Equipage which cannot be replaced but from Europe the Death of the General & Loss of all his Papers & Instructions together with the want of Officers for the Regiments & the weakness & Terror of the Men that survive have determined Colonel Dunbar against attempting any thing till he can receive Instructions & Directions for his Conduct, indeed I beleive 'twould be impossible to prevail on the Troops at present to advance towards the Enemy or their Fort, was the Colonel supplied with every thing necessary for pursuing the General's plan. I see by the Pensil[a] Gazette that Governor Morris has convened the Assembly of that Province on this unhappy turn of our Affairs & that by their Address they give him room to expect £50000 for his Majesty's Service but I am told that they propose to raise the money by a Land Tax to which all the Proprietarys Mannours & even unappropriated unsettled & uncultivated Lands are to be subjected if such be their Views I presume the Issue of their present Meeting will be pretty similar to that of their last but if they prepare such a Bill as will be agreeable to the Governor I shall also meet our Assembly on the same Occasion in hopes that they may notwithstanding their late Resolves be persuaded to wave the Points they have contended for & imitate the Quakers Example. Inclosed your Ldp has a Regimental Return of the Officers & private Men that were killed or wounded in
p. 150 the Battle of the Monongahela, a particular Account of what

was left to the Enemy & destroyed by Colonel Dunbar in Letter Bk. I.
Obedience to General Braddock's Order I have not been able
to procure; but I have in general learnt that the Enemy have
taken 52 Carriages including the Train, 18 Waggon Loads of
Ammunition & 90 fat Oxen that were drove up two Days
before the Engagement. We cannot yet learn how great was
the Number of the Enemy that opposed the English but it is
beleived twas pretty considerable tho no Body will assert that
he saw a hundred during the Action w^ch^ continued more than
3 hours. but it is not difficult to account for this when they
inform us that the Attack was made principally by Indians &
that they divided & posted themselves behind the Trees which
grew on the Eminencies that were on the Right Flank & in the
Front of our Men. Our Troops fired away all their Ammuni-
tion before they left the field, but they did it (it is said) in a
good deal of Confusion & fear so that many were destroyed by
the hands of their Friends, about 800 or 900 Stand of Arms
are supposed to have fallen into the Enemy's hands with every
individual thing that had been carried over the Monongahela
River three quarters of a Mile from the Western Bank of
which the Action happened. I have not lately received any
Lett^r^ from the Northw^d^ but the Gazettes inform us that the
Troops in Nova Scotia have succeeded to their wishes having
dispossessed the French of all the Forts that they had built in
that part of the Continent, & I entertain hopes that Colonel
Johnson will reduce Crown Point, but indeed I am not without
some Apprehensions on Governor Shirley's Account. The
possession of the Lakes is of the greatest Importance to the
French, the Well Being of their more Southern & Inland
Settlements depends entirely thereon therefore I doubt not
they will leave nothing unattempted to interrupt his Oppera-
tions & if possible make themselves Masters of Oswego Fort:
We are told that a great number of the Indians & French
Troops that were at Fort Du Quesne are gone upward with
that Design & the probability thereof inclines us to beleive the
Report. The Ships of war that were at the Capes under the p. 151
Command of Commodore Kepple are sailed to join Admiral
Boscawen on the Coast of Nova Scotia. Our not receiving
any farther Advices from that Quarter makes us fear that the
Rest of the French Fleet have passed him & are gone up S^t^
Lawrence River. As soon as I receive any farther Intelligence
I shall take the Liberty of addressing myself again to your Ldp
& I hope I shall by the next opportunity have better news to
communicate than what has been the Subject of this & my last
Lett^r^ I am &c.

Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

30th of August transmitted by Capt Steuart's Ship—

Sr

Herewith I have transmitted the Acts of Assembly which agreeably to your Desire I had gotten transcribed, & also under a seperate Seal the Laws which have been enacted since my Arrival in Maryland: I conceived 'twould be most proper thus to return them in two Volumes as we are yet ignorant what has been his Lordsp's final Determination with respect to the Inspection Law. I think to compleat the sense in the third Section of the Revenue Law of 1704 after the Words "before the Departure of such Ship or Vessel" should have been inserted from this Province, & that all & every Master & Masters of any Ship or Vessells" coming into this Province but I could not permit in a Transcript that was to be authenticated such a Variation from the Original to which I recurred. The latest Letters from Fort Cumberland advise us that the
p. 152 Provincial Troops who are left there as a Garrison desert daily it is said that they are reduced to 150 Men, Governor Innes writes that on the 13th Inst a Lieut[t] who had been sent out with a party of Men upon the Scout towards the Great Meadows returned & reported "That two of his advanced Scouts having discovered about 50 Indians in the Meadows came running back to the Party, that about a Dozen of the Indians followed very close four of which discovering themselves to be Friends came up to his party with these two Men & advised him to turn immediately back, otherwise that he with all his Party would be scalped for that there were 400 French encamped at Col° Dunbar's Camp & had discovered the Stores that were buried there & that they had an advanced Guard of 100 more French posted about a Mile beyond the Meadows that the French were coming this way & that the Indians which were about a hundred more would soon be amongst the Inhabitants" Upon this Alarm the Hospital is removed down to Frederick Town & Governor Innes dispatched an Express to Colonel Dunbar who was proceeding thro Pens[a] towards the Provinces of New-York desiring a Reinforcement from him, I know not what Regard Col° Dunbar has paid to his Request but I am apt to think he is still marching to join General Shirley who I conclude from his last Lett[r] reached Oswego about 5 or 6 Days ago, I have been now informed by M[r] Morris himself that what I mentioned to you in my last respecting the Disposition of the Pens[a] Assembly has proved too true, Peruse the inclosed Gazettes & then I think you will not be at a loss to judge how much is ever to be expected from that Quarter, & pretty nearly

what would be the Consequence of our Assembly's Meeting at this time. I have not heard certainly what Resolution the Virginians have come to but there is a flying Report that they have granted £40000. more for his Majesty's Service & the Protection of their Frontiers in consequence of which 500 Rangers are gone toward the extreme Parts of that Province. We learn from Virg[a] that one Coll. Patton of Augusta C[ty] a very active & worthy man was lately scalped as he was proceeding to command a Party of Rangers on New River, & on Houlston River we hear Numbers have been cut off together with one Ensign Wright who was ordered thither to range &c. Letter Bk. I. p. 153

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Aug[st] 30[th]

S[r]

Inclosed you receive Bills of Excha. for £124. 16: 2 which you will accept & dispose of as heretofore; I mentioned to you some time since that I would replace the Money that was advanced Evans out of the Naval Office of Pocomoke but as his Ldp was pleased to order me to commissionate M[r] Graham to that place before one year had elapsed the Moiety of Fees paid me was only £39. 6 Currency which was something more than £20. short of what I had advanced & expended, however I thought I could receive that Sum & much more from the Land Office as it was near a Year before a joint Judge was added to Doctor Steuart but when I hinted as much to him the other Day he told me that you had been pleased to give him the whole profitts of the Office for that year by a Letter w[ch] he had lately received however that he was ready to account with me for a Moiety if I required it, finding that was the Case I dropt the Affair & shall not think thereof again till I know your farther pleasure. The 30[th] of Nov[r] 1753 I inclosed to you sundry Bills viz. M[r] Wilmot p[r] M[r] Iennings's for drawing plans of the City of Annapolis £5. 10. M[r] Emory for various Services p Order M[r] Jennings £22. 13. 9. M[r] Emory for sundry services p Order Gov[r] Sharpe £14. 14. 9. Col[o] Cresap for Services by Gov[r] Ogles Order £100. The last of w[ch] Bills only you have taken any Notice of to me. since that time the Mensurations that Emory made in Obedience to an Order of Council has considerably enlarged his Bill as you will see by the inclosed which he sent me sometime since with a petition that I would procure him payment. I did not choose to return him any Answer till I could be favoured with your Instructions, them I shall hope to receive soon, in the mean time I am S[r] &c p. 154

Letter Bk. I. P. S. Pray how or by whom is the Expence of copying the Laws that are now transmitted to be defrayed, if t'was to be charged to the publick the Lower House would never I doubt admit it into the Journal, but if they should when would the Transcriber get satisfied if he must depend on the publick for payment, Your Instructions hereon will be acceptable.

Letter Bk. II. p. 134 [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Sept. 2d 1754. [1755]

Sr

Your Lettr dated the 25th ult I have received & considered, & as I am about to make a short Excursion from Annapolis & may not probably return before Your Express arrives from Phila I leave this in answer to that your Letter. I readily agree with you that many great Advantages would have, attended Colo Dunbars constructing some place of Defence for the security of the Stores as well as the Troops under his Command at the place where he was encamped when he received the News of the General's Misfortune & I am inclined to think the Enemy would not have ventured to attack him had he been advantageously posted there or any where between that place & Fort Cumberland where he might have been reinforced & supplied with such things as may have been wanted towards making a second Attempt this Summer,
p. 135 that such a Step was not taken Colo Dunbar says was entirely owing to the General who as soon as he was brought up to his Encampment gave Orders for his Retreat & for destroying every thing that was not brought off—When Colo Dunbar called the Council he did produce & read Your Letter & I beleive the other members as I did myself apprehended Your meaning in general to be that if the particular Modes of reducing Fort Du Quesne therein specified could not be followed any other Step should be taken whereby the Enemy might be most offended & His Majesty's Service best advanced, some of the Reasons that made me averse to Colo Dunbar's marching westward I have already intimated to you & I hope they are thought satisfactory but I doubt not but Sr Ia St Clair (who I expect is e'er this with you) will if you ask him give you other convincing Reasons for his Opinion which was pretty similar to mine on that Occasion, Colo Dunbar did not consult us on any other Affairs & I took it for granted at that time as I do now that he intended to proceed to join General Shirley if the General should approve thereof & not go into Quarters as it seems he writ you that he intended. I expected he would have left the Independant Companies where he found them, at least I did not conceive he wd have carried the

Carolina Company away from Fort Cumberland & the place Letter Bk. II.
of their Destination, If no other good had been obtained
thereby I am inclined to think that if he had left either of
those Companies Desertions among the Provincials would have p. 136
been much less frequent, for the Men would have been afraid
of the Execution of martial Law on them as being in Conjunc-
tion with His Majestys Regular Forces, which the case being
now different they think there is no reason to fear. You speak
as if Dunbar had taken Mortars with him, I did not appre-
hend that any were imported neither did I before hear what you
relate concerning the Enemy's destroying the Artillery that fell
into their hands—Your Proposal to build a Fort somewhere
beyond the Allegany Mountains this Fall I approve of & should
be glad our People would contribute to the putting such a
Scheme in Execution, but that I am convinced they will never
do unless compelled by the Legislature of Great Britain or
unless some Letters that I expect by Montgomery bring me
such Instructions as will let me meet the Assembly on a very
different Footing from what I have lately done. If the Gen-
erosity of the Virginians alone will enable you to construct &
garrison such a place of Defence I think you cannot take any
measure more for his Majesty's Service & the Security of these
Colonies than setting it about it immediately, but at the same
time I cannot help thinking that 'twill be expedient or rather
absolutely necessary to have some strong place on this side the
Mountains where the Stores & Provisions may be lodged in
Safety: such a place Fort Cumberland is not, & never can be p. 137
made, its Situation will not permit it (as I am persuaded
every one of your Officers if you will ask them will tell you) &
I know not of any so proper as that which I before acquainted
you the Engineers had pointed out; if you entertain hopes
of proceeding to construct a Fort beyond the Mountains,
I presume you will endeavour to procure the assistance of one
of them Gent[n] Coll Innes's Letters to me express vast Appre-
hensions of Danger, he seems to think the Enemy will make
an Attempt on Fort Cumberland & I am apt to think, that if
they do with any force it is as certainly their own. I do not
hear that the Maryland Company has lost more than two Men
by Desertions, we have beside them a Command of about 20
at a small Fort on Tonallaway Creek for the Protection &
Satisfaction of the distant Inhabitants, w[ch] as well as the Com-
pany is supported out of the Subscription Fund, till something
farther can be done for his Majestys Service & our Protection.
I have not learnt that any Mischief has been lately done on our
Frontiers but I am told the Country is entirely deserted for 30
Miles below Fort Cumberland since Col[o] Dunbar marched. I
suppose your Express will inform you that he has now left
Phil[a] & is proceeding to N York so that if he makes Dispatch

Letter Bk. II. the Troops may I apprehend be at Albany in a fortnight or 3 weeks & I hope as he has left us, he will be time enough to be of some Service to General Shirley, on whose account I assure
p. 138 you I am not without some fears & Apprehensions. I am impatient to hear from him for if he can but succeed, I flatter myself twill not be very difficult to reduce the Enemy's Garrisons on the Ohio let them be as strong as they may, when they have taken proper measures at home to make us unite, or for another American Campaign. pray did you obtain a Militia Law if you did send me a Copy whereby You'll oblige S^{r}—

Original. [Shirley to Sharpe.]

Camp at Oswego Sept. 9th 1755

Sir

As it may be acceptable to your Honour to know the Situation of the Service, which is under my immediate Care, I transmit you the following account of it.

The last Division of the Forces under my Command were twenty Six Days upon their march from Schenectady to this Place, where they did not arrive untill the 2^{d} Instant: The Troops are so much reduced by Desertion and Sickness, and absence of Detachments upon Parties & Command, that by a Field Return, which I ordered to be taken yesterday it Appears, that the number of men in the three Regiments & Independent Company fit for Duty upon the Spot don't amount to 1400, out of which we are oblig'd to keep 100 at work upon a New Fort, and if the Body of the Forces moves from this Place, must leave 300 at least for the Defence of it, so that not 1000 men will remain for other Service, & of these 60 must be employ'd as Matrosses, & a number as Pioneers: To this I am to add that we have Suffered greatly by Desertion of Battoesmen, after being impress'd and even proceeding Part of the way with us; by which means we are in want of Provisions for any Service, that will require ten days in the Execution.

However, if I am not disappointed of Supplies of Provisions which I hourly expect; I am encourag'd, upon the Intelligence, I have gained since my arrival here, that with our Naval Force, and the Assistance of the Indians, whom I have pick'd up in my Passage thrô the Country of the five Nations, and the Albany men, whom I hired to go with me as a Scouting party of Guards (both which may Amount to 140 men) I say, I am encourag'd, Sir, to hope that we may proceed upon Action in a very few Days, and that a foundation will be laid this year for such a Campaigne the next, as I flatter myself (provided

the Colonies shall then exert a proper Spirit) may secure all points in dispute between us and the French.

As a Meeting of Commissioners from all the Colonies as far Westward as Virginia inclusive, with me to be appointed by Act of Assembly, in the Month of October or November in order to consult upon the most Proper measures to be taken for the general Interest of the Common Cause the next Spring, may have a good Effect for his Majestys Service, I mention it to your Excell^{cy} for your Consideration and shall do the same to the other Gov^{ts} in a Circular Letter: if such a Convention shall be thought adviseable, I would propose New York for the Place of meeting, and the 15th of November the time for it, as I shall be there in my Return to Boston, where I must be present early in December.

As I think a very early Campaigne the next year necessary I have sent orders to Col Dunbar the Commanding officer of his Majestys two British Regiments & two Independent Companies of New York to March those Troops directly to Albany, where I design their Winter Quarters shall be, and to leave at this Place as many of the Troops now with me, as can be supported here during the Winter, that they may be assembled ready to act either Seperately or in conjunction with such Provincial Troops as the Colonies shall think fit to raise ag^{t} the French Settlem^{ts} either upon the Lakes and Ohio; which last place is very accessible thrô that Route, or ag^{t} any part of Canada, as his Majestys Service, & the General Interest of the Colonies may most require.

The first thought of having a Meeting with Commissioners from the Colonies was Suggested to me from the inclosed Extract.

As Col Dunbar's and the late Sir Peter Halkets Regim^{ts} have been greatly reduced by the Defeat of the late Major General Braddock in their March to the Ohio for the Protection and Service of the several Colonies of Pensilvania, Maryland and Virginia in Particular; and his Majestys Service, & their further Protection require that those Regiments should be compleated to 1000 men each by the beginning of the Spring, I can't but hope that the three before mentioned Gov^{ts} will readily make Grants for Supplying Coł Dunbar & L^{t} Col Gage with levy money for that purpose; and that your Honour will be pleased to recommend it in the Strongest Terms to the Assembly within your own Governm^{t} I have wrote to Gov^{r} Morris & Gov^{r} Dinwiddie to the same Effect.

I am with great Regard
Sir
Your Honours Most Humble
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley.

Hon^{ble} Horatio Sharpe Esq^{r}

Extract of an account of the Proceedings of the New Jersey Assembly, drawn up at the request of Governor De Lancey by M^r^ Alexander a Member of his Majesty's Council for the Provinces of New York & New Jersey & communicated to Major General Shirley by the Governor.

Sundrys of the Assembly heartily wish that a Congress of Commissioners should meet with Major General Shirley at Albany or where else he would be pleased to appoint in October or November next, to agree on the further necessary Supplies & Forces for next year, that should be provided in the Winter, so that all might be at the place of rendezvous by the first of the Spring that the Commissioners should be appointed by Acts of the several Legislatures But as they are one of the smallest Colonies they durst not take upon them to begin a Proportion for that purpose, but will most readily follow the Example of the other greater Colonies as far as their abilities can go.

Letter Bk. II. p. 138

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Sept 14^th^ [1755]

Sir

I was exceedingly glad to learn from S^r^ Iohn S^t^ Clair who arrived here Friday Evening that you enjoy good health, S^r^ John finds himself pretty well after his Journey & proposes leaving this place Tuesday morning & to proceed towards Oswego, from the Accounts that I have received from Phil^a^ I conclude that Coll Dunbar is scarcely marched thence as yet, but I hope the Inhabitants will make such Dispatch in supplying the Troops with such things as they want that he will not have Occasion to postpone his Departure many Days longer. You sometime since put into my hands M^r^ Mitchells proposals for publishing a Map of America I should be much obliged to you for procuring & sending me two Copies if any of them are imported into Virg^a^ for Sale. With &c.

p. 139

[Sharpe to William Sharpe.]

Sept^r^ 15^th^ 1755.

D^r^ B^r^

In my Lett^r^ dated the 11^th^ of Aug^st^ I informed you that Col^o^ Dunbar with the Remains of the two Regiments & the 3 Independant Companies was on his march from Fort Cumberland to Philadelphia, by Letters thence I learn that he arrived at that place a Fortnight ago & that as soon as he could get

some necessary Cloaths made for the Men who were in great Letter Bk. II.
want thereof & a little Field Equipage he would obey General
Shirley's Orders by proceeding to N York & making the best
of his way to Oswego. As that place is not much less than
400 Miles distant from N York I am afraid he will not be able
to reach it & reinforce General Shirley time enough to enable
him to make a successful Attempt on Niagara this year
& I beleive that without his Assistance that Enterprize will not
be undertaken; indeed I think that if the General can secure
himself, construct a strong place of Defence on the shore & by
the Vessels that are building secure the Lake Ontario this year
he will do good Service & be in a fair way of making a Con-
quest early in the Spring; The Fort & pass of Niagara is in
my Opinion the most desirable place in N America as I have p. 140
before hinted to you & as I intimated to General Braddock
upon his Arrival on this Continent in a Letter that beginning
with an Apology for my Tardiness in waiting upon him in
Person was thus continued What Intelligence we have lately
received concerning the French who have been sent to take
possession of the Country adjacent to the River Ohio & their
present strength in these parts you will know from S^{r} Iohn S^{t}
Clair & I entertain the most sanguine hopes that their Numbers
there will not be found very formidable, but I am apprehensive
that unless the Communication between Canada & the Forts &
Settlements that the French have made to the Southward of
Lake Erie can be cut off it will not be an easy Matter to
secure our possession of them after the Success of your Arms
has recovered his Majestys Dominions on w^{ch} the French
Troops have presumed to incroach the permission or Lycence
that that nation obtained some years ago to build a Fort in the
Country of the 6 Indian Nations at Niagara (the pass or
Streight between the Lakes Erie & Ontario) has now given
them the Command over those people, an Opportunity of p. 141
monopolizing the Trade with the distant Nations & has
secured to them a short & easy Communication between their
Northern & Southern Colonies—

As they are Masters of Ontario Lake by means of their
strong & well garrisoned Fort thereon named Cataracui, & the
nature of the Adjacent Country renders a Road to Niagara by
Land impracticable, they have not hitherto given themselves
much trouble to render that place more defensible than Nature
has made it imagining for the two Reasons just mentioned that
the English would never attempt the Conquest of it however
strongly its vast importance might invite them thereto. At
present we have only a Trading House destinguished some-
times by the Appellation of Oswego-Fort on Ontario Lake
where perhaps 50 or 60 Men from the New York Independant

Letter Bk. II. Companies may now be posted, but by what I can find the French may make themselves Masters thereof at a very small Expence & without much Difficulty just when they please, unless some of the Indians should insist on its being a place of Neutrality as they did during the late war between the two Crowns: should the Indians appear less desirous of reserving that place to the English at present (which indeed I am some-
p. 142 what suspicious will be the Case) I apprehend the French will immediately dispossess us thereof as soon as they hear of your Arrival & that they have some thing to fear on Account of their late acquired possessions on the Ohio. had the General used less Dispatch in marching to Fort Du Quesne & employed his Men in making places of Defence at proper Distances as they marched the Enemy would have been kept in Suspence on the Ohio while things were carried on more privately to the Northward & till a Descent could have been made by water on Niagara but as General Braddock thro the impatience of the young people about him as 'tis said hurried on too fast & miscarried so early in the Summer I am afraid there are e'er this more Troops at the Streight than Shirley is able or will undertake to deal with. Colonel Johnson I see by the Northern papers conceiving himself too weak to invest the French Fort at Crown Point is employing his Men in raising another about 20 Miles on this side thereof till he can be reinforced from the New England Governts. to whom he has made his Situation known & sollicited immediate Succours. I inclose you our last Gazette which contains all the News we have lately received from Boston, which makes us flatter ourselves with
p. 143 hopes that Admiral Boscawen will not let the Fleet that is at Louisburg escape in a Condition to do much mischief. About a month ago Governor Innes writ to me intimating that he thought Fort Cumberland would be attacked by a Body of French & Indians that had been discovered by one of his Scouting Parties, at the Meadows; Was the Enemy to make such an Attempt I am apt to think they would find little difficulty in making a Conquest, for from 300 provincials that were left to garrison the Fort when Dunbar marched with the Regular Troops scarcely 100 remain which we must attribute to the Opinion they entertain that being no longer in Conjunction with Regular Troops they are no longer Subject to the penalties of the Mutiny Bill & tho we & their Officers should entertain different Sentiments yet the Offenders could not be brought to condign punishment because none of the Officers are vested with a power to hold general Courts Martial. You may learn from M^{r} Calvert (to whom I have sent their proceedings to what a length the Dispute has been carried between Governor Morris & his Assembly, that nothing is to

be expected from that quarter without the Compulsion of an Act of Parliament is most evident & I am persuaded that our People are much disposed to follow the Precedent that the Pensilvanians have set them. The Virginians have granted £40000 more for the Service & the Governor talks of raising therewith 1000 or 1200 Men immediately who are to be commanded by M^r^ Washington & to march over the Allegany Hills within these two Months & build a Fort on the Western Side of them, but Experience inclines me to think they will not on this side Christmas raise more than Men enough to defend Fort Cumberland & their own Frontiers. S^r^ I^n^ S^t^ Clair's being with me is the reason you receive this in an unusual Character, he is pretty well recovered of his wound & proceeds Northward to Morrow Morning in his Way to Col° Dunbar or to General Shirley at Oswego where I beleive he expects to take up his winter quarters. &c

Letter Bk. II. p. 144

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 154

Sept^r^ 15^th^ 1755—

My Lord

Since I did myself the honour to address Your Ldp last I have been informed by Governor Morris that the Issue of his Assembly's Meeting was such as I apprehended would follow the proposal that common Rumour informed us had been made as I intimated to your Ldp in my last Lett^r^ I have sent M^r^ Calvert for Your Ldps perusal the several Messages & Addresses that passed between the Governor & Assembly on that Occasion which evidently discover the Disposition of that people & I am afraid that if our people were to be convened they would not esteem the Pensilvanians proceedings as precedents unworthy their imitation, that Reason & the Consideration that our Mite (in case the Assembly should have met generously disposed & inclined to avoid Disputation & Controversy) would not have been effectual without the Concurrence & Aid of the Pensilvanians, determined the Gentlemen of the Council to advise against a Session till I should be honoured with your Lordship's farther Instructions. The Virginians have granted the Sum of £40000 for the Service & are raising Men therewith for the protection of their Frontiers & in case they can form a Body of 1000 or 1200 Men within these two months the Governor will order them to march over the mountains & construct some place of Defence on the Western Side of the Allegany Ridge. I received a Letter from Fort Cumberland near a month ago expressing the Governor's Apprehensions that some French & Indians who had

p. 155

Letter Bk. I. been discovered at the Meadows were coming to attack that place but as I have not since heard any thing farther on that Subject I am apt to think the Governor's fears were in some
p. 156 sort groundless, tho the continual Desertion of the Garrison since the Regulars seperated from them cannot but give him great Room for Uneasiness. I am told that Colonel Dunbar who is at Phil[a] has received Orders from General Shirley to join him as soon as possible & I expect that in compliance with such Orders the Troops are by this time about to leave that place. Late Letters from the Northward I have received none but the Gazettes inform Us that General Iohnson thought himself too weak to invest Crown Point & therefore was employing himself in raising a Fort 20 Miles on this Side thereof till he could be reinforced from the N. England Govern[ts] to whom he had made his Situation known & from whom we hope he will receive sufficient & timely Succours. General Shirley I apprehend acts only on the Defensive & is busied in erecting a strong Fort on the Shore of Ontario Lake whereon it is said we have three Vessels of Force, as soon as I receive any Intelligence from that Quarter or if any thing of importance occurs in Your Lordship's province I shall not fail to send Your Ldp immediate Advice thereof & in the mean time I remain

Y[r] Ldps—

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

15[th] Sept[r] 1755 transmitted by Capt.

S[r]

With Duplicates of my last Letters I inclose you the latest pens[a] Gazette which contains all the News that we have received from the Northward; no account has been brought from Fort Cumberland since that which I have already sent
p. 157 you, from whence I conclude that Affairs continue in the same Situation, Colonel Dunbar has not sent thither a Reinforcement, but is about to leave Phil[a] it is said & to proceed towards General Shirley. In Virginia they are levying Troops as fast as they can & Governor Dinwiddie flatters himself that he shall be able to have 1200 Virginians ready to form a Body in about two Months to march over the Allegany Mountains & to construct some place of Defence on the Western Side of them; I wish he may see his plan executed, but the frequent Desertions from the provincials since they have lost all Dread of severe punishment by the Regulars leaving them inclines me to entertain some fears that there will be greater Difficulty in marching such a Body of Provincials & keeping them together

than Gov^r^ Dinwiddie seems to imagine. We are told that Letter Bk. I.
several Indians have been lately killed in Virginia by their Ranging Parties & that a Deserter from Fort Du Quesne is come into that Province who says that the French at that Fort are not less than 2000 who are under the Command of one Count Brodie a Scotchman that was himself in the late Action with near 2000 Indians. I have not heard that any Enemy has been seen in this province since Colo Dunbar left us but the people who dwelt beyond Tonalloway Creek where Lieut^t^ Stoddert & 15 Men have built a Stoccado Fort have I am informed all left their plantations so that the Country is deserted for 30 Miles Eastward of Col^o^ Cresap's who is also removing or removed down to Conegogeek where one of his Sons p. 158
inhabits. It has been hinted that Coll Dunbar & many Officers of the two Regiments are on very indifferent Terms with Coll Burton & the late General's Aid De Camps who are also at Phila. & some Paragraphs in the pensilvania paper leaves me no room to doubt of the Fact. As we shall not want frequent Opportunities of Conveyance this Month or two you may depend on my punctuality in advising you of every Occurrence that happens whereby the Interest of his Ldp's or the other provinces can be affected. You will excuse my sending this in an unusual Character which is owing to S^r^ Jn S^t^ Clair's being with me on his Way to Oswego & you will I hope beleive me to be with great Respect & Esteem &c.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Virg^a^ Williamsburg Oct^r^ 3^d^ 1755

Sir

Inclos'd you have a Letter from S^r^ T. Robinson which came to my Hands Yesterday; According to Your Desire I sent you p C^l^ Montgomerie Mitchels Map of these Colonies.

I congratulate you on the Success of G^l^ Iohnson against the French near Crown Point: I have no Express with the Particulars of the Action, which I greatly expect to confirm the News we hear from the N York Papers.

Lieu^t^ Gray of the S^o^ Car^o^ Company has drawn on me for 60£ St^r^ for Pay due as he says for being Brigade Major at Fort Cumbld, we had no Forces there till the Spring, he charges from Sep^r^ 1754 our Committee will not allow him any Thing as not being on the Establishment; yet if he did that Duty, which I dare say he did, & by report is esteemed a good Officer; in that Case the three Colonies should allow him something as he has been twice plundered by the Enemy & I wrote him to that Effect.

I want much to hear if Pensylvania Assembly have at their last meeting voted any Supplies. Our Forces must remain on the Defensive till the Spring, & till we have orders from Britain.

I remain with great Respect
Your Excellency's
Most obed^{t} hble Servant
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Original. [Shirley to Sharpe.]

Camp at Oswego Oct^{r} 4th 1755

Sir

In my Letter of the 25th of September I informed your Honour that I should set out in three Days to proceed to Niagara; But upon finding Several matters, which had happen'd since the last Council of War, had made the Officers who compos'd it, think it unadviseable to proceed in such an Attempt this year; I conven'd them again in Council; and as the minutes of both will best explain to your Honour the State of His Majestys Service here, I have inclosed Copies of them.

I am with great Regard,
Sir
Your Honours most Humble,
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley

Hon^{ble} Horatio Sharpe Esq^{r}

Letter Bk. II. p. 146 [Sharpe to In^{o} Sharpe.]

Oct^{r} 6th 1755

D^{r} B^{r}

The Day after my last was writ to you I accompanied S^{r} In^{o} S^{t} Clair 40 Miles by water towards Phil^{a} intending to make a short Tour thence thro part of the Province in Company with the Judges who happened to be at that time on the Circuit. The third Day after S^{r} Iohn left us I received some Account of an Action that had happened on the 8th of that month between a large Body of French & Indians from Canada & the English provincial Troops who were under the Command of General Iohnson near the Shore of what the French call Lake Sacrement: Since that time I have been in Expectation of receiving an Authentick & circumstantial Account of that Engagement, which I find was much in our favour but hitherto I owe all the Information that I have received concerning it to the Gazettes w^{ch} you have inclosed. General Shirley in a Lett^{r} dated at Oswego the 9th of Sept^{r} tells me that including the last

Division of his Army w^ch^ was just then arrived in twenty Six Letter Bk. II.
Days from Skenectady the whole Body of Men then with him
did not exceed 1400 of whom many were sick & One hundred
kept constantly employed in constructing a place of Defence at
the mouth of Oswego River on the Eastern Side. The
Desertion of Battoe-Men had prevented his receiving proper p. 147
Supplies of Provisions but he expressed hopes of being soon
enabled by the Arrival of a sufficient quantity to attempt some-
thing before this time Colo Dunbar with the two Regiments
& three Independant Companies has received Orders & is
marched to Albany where General Shirley intends they shall
take up their winter quarters & be in readiness to act seper-
ately or in Conjunction with such provincials as the Colonies
shall think fit to raise & march against any of the French
Settlements early in the Spring—Gov^r^ Dinwiddie has already
dropt the Scheme of building a Fort this winter beyond the
mountains, but his Officers are levying men for Coll Washing-
ton's Regiment that is to be diciplined & ready for Action as
soon as the Severity of the Winter is over—

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I.
p. 158

6^th^ of Octob^r^ 1755 transmitted by Capt Hamilton—

S^r^

I presume that long before this can be presented you will
have heard of the Action that happened on the 8^th^ Ult. between
the French from Canada & the English Provincial Troops
commanded by General Iohnson near Wood Creek & Lake
George (by the French called Sacrement) A particular &
Authentick Account by Lett^r^ of that Engagement I have not
received, but you will see all that we know of the Affair in the
late Pensilv^a^ Gazetts w^ch^ I have inclosed for your Perusal.
The last of those papers will also shew You that the Contro-
versy which has subsisted between Gover^r^ Morris & the Pens^a^
Assembly is not more likely to be terminated than it was when p. 159
I sent some Proceedings of theirs with a former Lett^r^ I have
just received a Lett^r^ from Gen^l^ Shirley dated at Oswego the
9^th^ of Sept^r^ wherein he tells me that the last Division of the
Forces under his Command being arrived there on the 2^d^ of
that Month after a March of 26 Days from Skenectady he
found that the whole Number then with him did not exceed
1400 of whom 100 were kept constantly employed in con-
structing a new Fort, which tho he does not say it I conclude
is on a Point that commands Oswego Fort. By the Desertion
of Boat & Battoe-Men he tells me he had not been able to get
up any Quantity of Provisions so that he had at that time

Letter Bk. I. scarcely enough for any Service that would require Ten Days in the Execution, however he seem'd to entertain hopes of being able to enter on Action before this time in Case the Supplies of Provisions that were hourly expected did not fail him Coll. Dunbar with the two Regiments & three Independant Companies are ordered to Albany where General Shirley proposes they shall take up their Winter Quarters & be in readiness to act seperately or in Conjunction with the Troops now at Oswego or such Provincials as the Colonies shall think fit to raise & march against the French early in the Spring. The General desires me to prevail on our Assembly to send Commissioners to N York the 15th of Novemr next &
p. 160 to impower them (as he hopes the Assemblies of the neighbouring Colonies will theirs) to consult with him on the most proper measures to be taken for the general Interest & our common Cause & stipulate for the further necessary Supplies that each province shall furnish before the ensuing Spring but this I imagine is absolutely impracticable in our present Circumstances however I shall consult with his Ldp's Council thereon & take their Advice whether I shall meet our Assembly before I receive his Ldp's farther Instructions for my Conduct. Govr Dinwiddie informs me that finding no Assistance was to be expected from Maryland or Pensila he has given over all thoughts of constructing a Place of Defence on the Western Side of the Mountains this Winter, but his Officers are Levying Men to compleat Colo Washingtons Regiment which is to be diciplined during the Winter & rendered fit for Action early in the Spring. We learn that many Families who lived on Pattison's Creek have been lately killed, carried away, or burnt in their Houses by a Party of Indians who infest that part of Virga & have I hear murthered & taken Captive three or four of our Inhabitants within a few Miles of Fort Cumberland. The Garrison at that place consists of about 150 effective Men who since the Departure of Coll Innes to Carolina are I expect under the Command of Capt Dagworthy who is the eldest Officer. I was in hopes of being favoured with a Lettr by Montgomery but as he has been now arrived in Virginia almost a Month without sending me any I conclude he has not charged himself therewith. Be kind enough to send the inclosed to Br In & beleive me to be with the greatest Regard

Sr Yr mo obligd humb Servt

[Shirley to Sharpe.] Original.

Camp at Oswego October 7th 1755.

Dear Sir,

Being fully perswaded that a meeting between you, Govr Morris, Sir Charles Hardy and myself at New York at my return to Boston thrô that place, wch must be by the latter End of November would be greatly for the good of his Majys Service in settling the plan of operations for the ensuing Spring; I have sent to you express to desire that you would do me the pleasure to meet me at New York in thirty days from this date.

I have sent a letter by this Express to Govr Morris to ask the same favour of him.

I am with great regard and Esteem,
Dear Sir
Your most Humble and
Most
Obedient Servant
W Shirley

Honble Horatio Sharpe Esqr

[Sharpe to Robinson.] Letter Bk. II. p. 144

October the 8th 1755—Sr Thos Robinson

Rt Honble

The Receipt of your Lettr dated the 19th of Iune I do myself the honour to acknowledge & hope you will be persuaded that the Orders therein given as well as all other Commands that you may be pleased to signify will be diligently obeyed. In this part of his Majestys Dominions Things have remained p. 145 in the situation they were in when I took the Liberty to address myself to you in August: this morning I was informed that a party of Indians have been seen on this Side Fort Cumberland, but as I have ordered a party of Men in pursuit of them I hope they will not be able to do much mischief. I learn that Coll Dunbar is embarking the Troops under his Command at Amboy in New Iersy in order to convey them to Albany where General Shirley designs they shall take up their winter quarters.

With the greatest Respect I am
Rt Hble Sr Yr mo devoted humb. Servt—

Letter Bk. II. p. 147

[Sharpe to Morris.]

Oct. 11 1755

S^r^

Within a few days I have received Several letters by Express from Capt. Dagworthy who commands the Garrison consisting of 137 Men at Fort Cumberland & from some other People advising me that the Indians have since the first Inst. cut off a great many Families who dwelt near Fort Cumberland & on both sides Potowmack some Miles Eastward of the Fort. It is supposed that near 100 Persons have been murthered or carried away Prisoners by these Barbarians who have burnt the Houses & ravaged all the Plantations in that part of the Country. Parties of the Enemy appear within Sight of Fort
p. 148 Cumberland every Day & frequently in greater Numbers than the Garrison consists of As I presume 'twill not be long before these People will pay a Visit to your Borders, I take this Opportunity of intimating what I think might be expected. an &c

[Sharpe to S^r^ Charles Hardy Governor of New York.]

Oct^r^ 11^th^ 1755—

S^r^

I have received the fav^r^ of Y^r^ Lett^r^ of the 5^th^ of Sept^r^ acquainting me w^th^ y^r^ safe Arrival in y^r^ Gov^t^ upon w^ch^ I heartily congratulate you & wish you much ease & Satisfaction in y^r^ Administration. As I am persuaded that a friendly Correspondence between the Gov^rs^ of the several British Colonies on the Continent is in the present State of Affairs exceedingly Expedient & cannot fail of conducing to the general Benefit of the whole you will please to be assured that the Declaration you make on that head is very acceptable & that I shall take the greatest pleasure in convincing you that my Disposition with regard to this Subject is exactly conformable to your own I am much obliged to you for the Regard you express for myself & hope you will think that nothing can afford me greater Satisfaction than to have Opportunities of shewing with how great Regard & Esteem I am

p. 149

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

Oct^r^ 17^th^ 1755—

S^r^

Your Favour of the 9^th^ of Sept^r^ I have received & as I think such a Congress as the Iersy Assembly desire might be attended with many good Consequences I would have convened our

Assembly on the Receipt of your Lett[r] had there been the Letter Bk. II.
least probability of my prevailing with them to depute Commissioners to meet you with power to make any Stipulation or Agreement with respect to the Quota of Men or Money that this Province should advance towards carrying on another Expedition against our common Enemy: but Sir I am sorry to inform you that the Case is far otherwise some Disputes that subsist between the Branches of our Legislature have for the present put an entire Stop to all Business. Not even the Ravages that the Enemy have been committing on our Frontiers had weight with our Assembly to make them wave the point in Controversy, you will readily conclude then that my Meeting them on what they have & would esteem a more forreign matter would be to little Effect; however as soon as I receive some Letters that I expect very shortly from England I will convene the Assembly & will you may be assured endeavour to procure some Supplies tho the present Circumstances of our Affairs & the Vicinity & Incursions of the Enemy against whom an Armed Force in these parts will be requisite forbid me to expect any thing considerable for you. I am much p. 150
obliged to you for favouring me with a particular Account of your situation at the time you writ which indeed seems to have been none of the best but as you expressed some Expectations of being put in a better Condition by the Arrival of a Convoy of Provisions I entertain the most sanguine hopes that you was not disappointed in such your Expectations & that every thing has since fallen out according to your wishes. Since Colonel Dunbar left Fort Cumberland the Indians have made frequent Incursions & cut off many of the Inhabitants. The Garrison of the Fort is reduced by Desertions to about 140 men who are as it were shut up by the numerous Parties of Indians that infest all that part of the Country. Of the Troops in Fort Cumberland about 100 are the Remains of all the Virginians; in pursuance of a late Act of their Assembly Govern[r] Dinwiddie has ordered them to be compleated to 1000 by Colo Washington who is to have the Command of them when so Regimented. Since General Braddock's Misfortune we have not been able to get any Intelligence from Fort Du Quesne but a French Deserter who left it a good while ago tells me that the French have a Magazine of Provisions between Fort de Niagara & S[t] Victo at the Distance of about 9 miles from the first.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Letter Bk. I.
p. 162

20[th] Oct[r] transmitted by M[r] Wayne—

Sir

Your Packett by Montgomorie I have at length had the Satisfaction to receive. The Directions with which your Letter

Letter Bk. I. of the 13th of May begins shall You may be assured be punctually observed, as shall on every Occasion His Ldp's & Your Instructions.

As much of Arundel Mannour as has by the Expiration of the old Leases been set out since I mentioned our Design to advance the Rent has been leased at the Rate of £5. a 100 Acres but we have been obliged to allow the Addition of a
p. 163 little Reserve to each Tract so leased. It is absolutely impracticable at present to raise the Price of his Ldps vacant Lands, Some People begin to think their property less secure than heretofore, & I am told very few will chuse to be concerned with such Land as lies toward the Frontiers, as will I am afraid be too well evinced by the Agent's next Accounts. I am sorry to tell you there is not the least Room to hope that the Assembly will hear of any thing in favour of an Amendment to the Inspection Law. I am confident that there are scarcely Ten people in the Lower House who at this time desire its Continuance in any Form, & I have great reason to think that the present Scarcety of Tobo inclines the Majority of the People to wish his Ldp may dissent to the Act entirely; I therefore submit to his Ldp to do therein as to him seems best, but in case of his Ldp's Dissent shall be glad to know whether the Regulation of Officers Fees shall be the same as before any Inspection Law was made & whether I shall ascertain & settle them by proclamation. I have communicated what you desired to Mr Calvert & presume you will by this Opportunity receive Letters from himself, he says he will continue as joint Iudge of the Land Office till he hears from you again. As I cannot otherwise secure the Annual Present for Mr Wogan it continues charged to that Office & I have desired them to let me have a Bill to remit for his use. I find Mr Calvert thinks he has a Right to expect something in Consequence of his Marriage or
p. 164 the Late Ld's Will. I cautioned him to take Care how he proceeded, lest he should seem wanting in Duty & Respect to His Ldp & Yourself, he promised to do so, but gave me to understand that he will never relinquish his Claim to what he has been told he has a Title to, unless a Verdict or Decree pass agst him. I have desired Colo Lloyd to come over as soon as possible, till that time I defer answering that Part of your Lettr which relates to Talbot Mannour & also taking any farther Step with respect to Mr Edwd Tilghman, for I am afraid Colonel Lloyd will scarcely chuse to accept his Books unless they are perfected & setled, for which End only he has been indulged so long. I am sorry Mr Steuart thinks himself more aggrieved by the Act for granting £6000. than those who contract for the Exportation of the Convicts from the inland Prisons. Mr Steuarts & the other Contractors Agents sell the

Convicts they import from £8 to £20 S^g^ each, which People Letter Bk. I.
here think a pretty good Premium for their Passage, & hope
M^r^ Steuart would have no cause to complain of a hard Bargain
tho he was to receive none of the Bounty that is allowed by
Act of Parliament for transporting Felons from England to
these Plantations. In Pens^a^ & some of the Islands they
imposed £5 p poll on them, & obliged the Purchasers to give
Security for their good Behaviour; I shall be glad to hear
therefore that M^r^ Steuart is content to pay £1 for four or five
years, when the Act will expire, on Condition there be no p. 165
additional Duty imposed on them. In fact the Twenty Shil-
lings of which M^r^ Steuart complains is paid by the purchaser
to whom the Contractor's Factors sell the Convicts accord-
ingly; but if 'twould be more agreeable I imagine the Lower
House might be prevailed on to take the Duty off the Importer
& lay it on the purchaser. It is the Opinion of our Lawyers
as it was the Intention of the Assembly that the Naval Officers
are obliged by their Oath & the words of the Act to demand
the Duty of Twenty Shillings on every Convict that is imported
& sold as a Servant for Seven Years, & if you please to recur
to the Account of Importations you will see that from that
Duty will arise a great part of the money that is to sink the
£6000. that was granted by that Act; so that if that part of the
Act was to be rejected, the Ordinary Lycences will stand
Mortgaged for 3 or 4 years longer than they are (if the Act
stands as it is) at present engaged for. I have left Nothing
undone to get the Mannours platted as you desire returned me,
but have not been yet able to get them all, however I hope
to have them soon when they shall be properly entered in one
Book & transmitted by the first Opportunity. Your Scheme
for collecting the Rents by the Sheriffs we are now putting in
execution, I have engaged all the Sheriffs on this Side the
Bay to farm at 10 p^r^ C^t^ & they are now executing proper
Indentures for that purpose & Col^o^ Lloyd is doing the same on
the Eastern Shore but as there are some Tracts of uncultivated p. 166
Land in two or three Counties whose Owners are not in the
Country, I hope His Ldp or You will not insist on the Sheriffs
paying the Rents of them as they are not actually to be
obtained. You shall receive a List of all such Lands by a
speedy Conveyance & an Account how they are circumstanced,
the Rents of them will not amount to any considerable Sum,
but whatever it be, the Lands will be charged therewith in the
Agents Books, that His Ldp might recover the Arrears when
the Lands shall become occupied or are sold. The Disputes
concerning the Divisional Lines between His Ldp's Province &
the Delaware Counties as well as the Incorrectness of the Rent
Roll has been the Occasion that long Arrears are due on some

Letter Bk. I. Lands that lye near the Line, these Arrears the Sheriffs are to endeavour to obtain & obliged to account for only when they can receive them, but they are to be accountable for all Rents that shall become due on such Lands from this time. I have frequently writ to Mr Edwd Tilghman insisting on his immediate Completion & Perfection of the Rent Roll & Debt Books that it is his Business to adjust, & he has as often assured me that he was busily employed in doing so, Could Colo Lloyd have gotten all the old Rental Books & Papers out of his hands soon after my Arrival or before now, I would have readily agreed to his Dismissal for not perfecting the Books before, tho he attributes it all to his Predecessor in the Office; however I desired Coll Lloyd to refuse the payment of his
p. 167 Sallary till he had done what was required of him, & if Coll Lloyd approves thereof I will superceed him as soon as he comes to Annapolis, by which time I hope to receive your Answer & Instructions to my Letter on Mr Plater's Decease, which will remove the Difficulty I shall otherwise lye under about the Disposal of the Naval Office of Potuxent, in case Mr Darnal be to keep the Rent Roll, which indeed I think is the best Office for him & will give the Assembly less Cause or Opportunity than any other Office to remonstrate about the Religion & Education of his Family. I do not beleive & never heard that any secret Profitts accrued to the Rent Roll Keepers. the Sallaries paid them are as you see them charged in the Agents annual Accounts.

The Treasurers Offices are worth some years near £200 & other years not £30 each, their Profitts arising from a Commission of five p C^{t} on all Money p^{d} them by the Naval Officers. when many Negroe Ships arrived these Offices were valuable but at present they are inconsiderable. Coll Lloyd is Treasurer for the Eastern & Colo Hammond for the Western Shore. Be pleased to think & assure his Ldp that I shall continue to take every proper Step to prevent the Pensilvanians Incroachments on his Ldp's Province till the Determination in his Ldp's favour which I hope soon to hear of shall bring about a final Settlement of the Divisional Lines & all Disputes.

My Commission to Colo Plater to Act as your Deputy was dated the 14th of March so that to that Day Mr Iennings is accountable to you. I am obliged to His Ldp for leaving it to me to
p. 168 appoint either of the Gentn I before recommended (except Mr Dulany) to be of His Ldp's Council, & as His Ldp seems desirous that Members of the Lower House should have the Preference as often as possible I recommend Coll Robert Ienkins Henry for His Ldp's Approbation, tho I must confess that I should have been glad Mr Dulany had not been thought improper to succeed to a Seat at that Board.

My only reason is that he is esteemed a Gent[n] of the best natural & acquired Abilities of any in His Ldp's Gov[t] & at the same time looked on to be a Person of strict honour. What other People's Opinion of him may be I know not, but I am inclined to think he may be found of good Service if engaged in His Ldp's Interest, & not to be regained should he ever declare himself otherwise than a Friend to His Ldp's Measures & Gov[t] I will give him & M[r] Tasker a hint on what you mention tho I am apt to think M[r] Dulany has received but little Benefit from that Office. Inclosed is the Bill of Excha that you sent protested renewed & herewith also you receive the Acts that were made last Session which were not till now printed. I have sent you the last Pens[a] Gazettes which speak of another French Man of War's having fallen into the hands of the English. I know not what Credit is to be given to the Report as it does not seem to be very authentick. It has been said that the greatest part of Admiral Boscawen's Fleet was to sail to England this Fall; & we are told that General Iohnson having almost finished the Fort which he has been building at the Carrying Place near Lake George is about to return home with most of the Provincial Troops for want of sufficient Supplies of Provisions, for the Troops that have joined him since the 8[th] of Sept[r] General Shirley was preparing the 9[th] of last Month to make a Descent on Fort Frontenac or Cataracui but as I have not since heard from him I begin to fear he has found it impracticable I have not heard from Fort Cumberland since I writ last, but it is said that the Indians have lately disappeared with a Design (a Person who fell into their hands says) to deliver their Captives & Scalps at Fort Du Quesne & then return in greater Numbers. Beside Capt Dagworthy's Company at Fort Cumberland I have posted two small Companies of Men on the Frontiers & have ordered a Party of 30 Men from each County on this Side the Bay to range on the Frontiers during the Space of one Month from their Arrival there. two of the Parties are already marched & that from hence will march Saturday Morning. This Step will I hope hinder more of the People from leaving their Plantations beyond Conegogee tho I doubt such Troops are not to be much relyed on. with &c.

Letter Bk. I. p. 169

[Captain Spry to Sharpe.] Original.

Fougueux in Halifax
Harbour the 20[th] of Oct[r] 1755

Sir

Admiral Boscawen being sail'd for England and having honour'd me with the Command of all his Majesty's Ships and Vessels he has thought proper to leave in this Harbour, as

well as those Station'd at the Bahama Islands, and the different Colony's of North America; A List whereof I herewith Transmit you, that you may be a judge of his Majesty's Naval Force still remaining in those Seas.

As the Winter Season advances apace, and Admiral Boscawen was pretty well assured before he Sail'd, that the Garrison of Louisburg woud receive no more Supplies from France this year, he therefore directed me to lay up the great Ships and secure them for the Winter, that I may be the better enabled to proceed to Sea as Early in the Spring as the Season will permit, And Cruize in such a manner as shall be Iudg'd most proper to distress the French both at Louisburg and Quebec; and you may be assured I shall use all the means in my power to prevent any Supplies of Men or Provisions from being thrown into either of those places; Or Operate in any other manner as shall be thought most Adviseable for distressing, or destroying, the common Enemy, and for the protection of his Majesty's American Colony's; In Executing which Service I shall on all occasions pay great deference to your Advice, as I am Sensible your Excellency is very capable of informing me properly.

I shall not fail to send you from time to time all the Intelligence that may come to my knowledge of any Designs the French may form against any of His Majesty's Colony's; and I must also desire that you woud please to Communicate to me any advice you may receive of the like Nature, that I may endeavour by all means possible to disapoint their Shemes.

I am
Your Excellency's
Most Humble & Obedient Servant
R Spry.

His Excellency Govern^{r} Sharpe, Maryland

A List of Ships and Vessels under the Command of Richard Spry Esq^{r} Captain of His Majesty's Ship Fougeux.

Ships Names	guns	men	where Stationed
Fougeux	64	500	Halifax
Litchfield	50	330	
Norwich	50	330	
Centurion	54	400	
Success	20	130	
Vulture Sloop	14	90	
Mermaid	20	130	Boston
Nightingale	20	130	New York
Guarland	22	130	Virginia
Syren	20	130	South Carolina
Baltimore Sloop	16	90	North Carolina
Jamaica Sloop	14	90	Bahama's

R Spry

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Original.

Oct^{r} 22^{d} 1755—

My Lord

I have but just had the pleasure of receiving the Letter that Your Lordship did me the honour to write the 14th of May. The Approbation your Lordship is pleased to express of my past Conduct gives me inexpressible Satisfaction & I hope your Lordship will be persuaded that it shall be my constant study to merit the Continuance of your Lordships Favour. Sooner than this the plan that was proposed for the Collection of the Quit Rents could not be put in Execution, but the Sheriffs do now farm them at 10 ℔ ct. which is but half the Preemium that was given when I was honoured with your Lordships Commission. On this as well as your Lordships other Affairs I have writ fully to M^{r} Calvert who will submit my Letters to your Lordship & signify to me your Lordships pleasure thereon—I have not heard from General Shirley since the 9th of last Month whence I am afraid he finds it impossible to execute any thing this Fall; it is reported too that the French Men of War which were in Louisburg have given the English Squadron the slip, & that Admiral Boscawen with the greatest part of the Fleet under his Command is returned to Halifax & about to sail for England. We are also told that since the Action which happened on the 8th of Septem^{r} General Johnson has been reinforced by five or Six Thousand Men from New England but that being unable to proceed to Crown Point he was constructing a place of Defence at the Carrying Place near Lake George wherein he would leave a strong Garrison & the Rest of the Forces would return to their respective homes.

I have not heard that any Mischief has been done on the Frontiers of your Lordships Province since I writ last to M^{r} Calvert, but a Person who was lately taken Prisoner & carried almost to Fort Du Quesne by the Indians before he made his Escape says that he heard them threaten to return & pay us another Visit as soon as they had delivered up their Prisoners & Scalps to the French Commandant & received their Reward. I cannot find that they have killed many People on this side Potowmack but it is said that some hundreds of the distant Inhabitants of Virginia are missing & their Houses burnt. I have posted two partys of Men on our Frontiers which I hope will be of Service till some Measures that may be taken at home in Consequence of the Action on the Monongahela shall afford Us better Assistance & Protection.

With the Utmost respect and Duty I am
Your Lordships most Devoted and
most Obed. Humble Serv^{t}
Hor^{o} Sharpe

Annapolis
October 22^{d} 1755

Letter Bk. II. p. 151

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Annapolis Oct^{r} 24th 1755

D^{r} B^{r}

In this part of America Affairs remain as they were when I writ last, we lose an Inhabitant sometimes by Parties of Indians that make Incursions on our Frontiers while the Dispute that subsists between the Lower House & us concerning the Appropriation of Ordinary Lycence Fines puts it out of my Power to protect or provide for the Safety of the poor wretches whose distant situation exposes them to the Barbarities of our Savage Enemy. May some Steps be taken at home to determine the Controversy! this Province is otherwise in a very unhappy State & Condition. I find M^{r} Steuart who contracts for the Transportation of Convicts from London is endeavouring to get the Law that we passed last Summer (granting £6000 for his Majesty's Service) repealed because it imposed a Duty of twenty Shillings on every Convict that shall be imported into the Province; People here are apt to think that M^{r} Steuart as well as the other Contractors might have been well content to pay so small a Sum while they sell Convicts to our Planters from £8 to £20 St^{g} each, when less than £6 is a reasonable Premium for the Conveyance or Passage of any Person from England hither. It is reported that General Shirley has found it impracticable to make a Descent on either of the French Forts on Lake Ontario this
p. 152 year & that the Provincial Troops under the Command of General Iohnson will at this time proceed no farther, what Credit is to be given to these Reports I know not having received no Lett^{rs} from the Northw^{d} since the End of last Month.

[Sharpe to William Sharpe.]

24th Oct^{r}

D^{r} B^{r}

I have received the Extracts out of the Council Records respecting the Statute of the 6th of Queen Ann concerning the Emission of Paper money that you let M^{r} Calvert have, I shall take Care for the future to comply with the Orders contained in those Extracts neither do I conceive that the Law which was passed here soon after my Arrival regulating the Value of Coin is in the least contrary thereto, for our Act does not make the Coin or Paper Money of which it speaks a Legal Tender in all Payments but only in discharge of publick Levies & Officers Fees. I am apt to think that the Disallowance of the Act of the Jersey Assembly that you let

me have a Copy of by Mr Calvert will make that Province as averse to granting any farther Supplies for His Majesty's Service as the Assemblies of Pensa & Maryland have proved. Unless the Legislature of Great Britain interferes & orders what we shall each do these Colonies seem to be in a very unhappy State & Condition, the Indians make Incursions & cut off our Inhabitants while the Dispute that subsists between the Branches of our Legislature concerning the Appropriation of Ordinary Lycence Fines puts it out of my Power to take any measures to protect them. It is said General Shirley finds a Descent on either of the French Forts on Ontario this year impracticable & that General Iohnson is also at his Ne plus Ultra, I know not what Credit is to be given to such Reports but I begin to fear they are not without foundation— Letter Bk. II. p. 153

[Sharpe to Doctor Sharpe.]

Octr 24th by Mr Wayne—

Dr Dr

Instead of a long Lettr which an Unwillingness to deprive Mr Wayne of the Pleasure he may take in communicating to you what has occurred here since his Arrival makes me at this time decline writing, I will inclose you a Map of the British Settlements in N America & a Iournal of the Proceedings of our Assembly at their last meeting; The latter will shew you (if you think it worth while to peruse it) how unhappily our Affairs are circumstanced & that such Disputes subsist between the several Branches of this Legislature as will prevent our taking any Steps for our own Defence unless the Parliament of Great Britain shall think proper to interfere & decide or make us wave the Points in Controversy. I desire you will not be surprized at seeing I am become a Favourer of our Religion's Enemies, & that whatever Credit you give to those that would insinuate as much, you will give the greatest to me when I declare that I am with the highest Esteem

Yr obliged & most affecta Br

P. S Mr Ridout has informed you how
that Affair of Mrs Tiffens is circumstanced
I do not see what Releif she can get unless
She will divide wth the Commissioners the money that
is in her Attorneys hands.

Letter Bk. I. p. 169

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Oct[r] 26. 1755—transmitted by M[r] Wayne—

Sir

In my other Letter I have observed that the Arrearages that
p. 170 become due on Absentees Lands will be charged in the Agents Books & recovered when such Lands become occupied or shall be sold, perhaps you may ask why are they not attached & sold immediately to satisfy the Arrears of Rents that are due? The reason is that upon such an Attachment the Premisses must be valued by a Jury who in this Country would never fail to appraise the Land at much more than it is worth or would sell for so that if His Ldp was to take the Land according to the Appraisement he would very likely have as much to pay to the Owner of the Land as it was really worth. You seem surprized that M[r] Darnal should have known the purport of the Conversation between M[r] Plater & me, you must not wonder at such things as those for I can assure you however secret I desire to keep our Proceedings here, they by some means transpire. Every word that you have dropt before M[r] Harrison or any other of our Gent[n] whom you have been kind enough to receive has been known on their Arrival, & scarcely any thing is said by you relative to His Ldp's Affairs or any Person in the Province but is communicated to some of our Gentl[n] by their Correspondents in London indeed sometimes these Correspondents take the Liberty to send for News what never happened as they did when they advised the Attorney Gen[l] that he was actually appointed to a Seat in the Council & also Naval Officer of Potuxent. I before hinted to you the Cause that M[r] Dulany was not returned a Member at the last general Election of Representatives & that M[r] Key was rejected at the same Election almost on the same Account. They had both in the preceeding Session vehemently opposed & spoke against the
p. 171 Bills that were brought into the Lower House ag[st] Papists, this was reported much to their Disadvantage in their respective Counties & much lessened their Interest. M[r] Dulany would have offered himself Candidate for this City, but as his Brother Walter who has represented it many years, & M[r] Bordley had been canvassing. I did not urge him thereto especially as I at that time entertained hopes of his being approved to succeed his Father in the Council. At M[r] Tasker's Request I appointed him joint Commissary, for such an Assistant M[r] Tasker told me the Business of the Office requires; As joint Commissary he has principally transacted the Business of the Office, w[ch] must of necessity interfere a great Deal with his Practice as a Lawyer, because he must often give his Advice

& sit as Iudge when he would otherwise be retained by one of Letter Bk. I.
the Contending Parties & in the Caracter of an Advocate
receive a good Fee. This being the Case & the whole profitts
of the Office not very large, one cannot be very much sur-
prized at his asking leave to resign as I have already told you
he sometime since did. He continues as yet to Assist M^r^
Tasker till I receive your Instructions for appointing some
Gent^n^ to succeed him for M^r^ Tasker cannot (& will not I suppose)
undertake to execute the Duties of the Office alone. I shall
be glad to make M^r^ Darnal easy because you desire he
should be made so, but I hope he will not be approved of
as one of the Council lest it should Occasion great Uneasi-
ness & Dissatisfaction among the People One of the
Offices you mention will I hope satisfy his wishes as His being p. 172
Attorney Gen^l^ has gained him a good Deal of Practice in
the Law for which he was not educated. If ever I see a
Probability of carrying such an Act as you desire for the Col-
lection of the Quit Rents you may be assured I will embrace
the Opportunity. You seem to apprehend that much Income
is lost to his Ldp by his Tenants dividing & selling their
Land in seperate Parcells or bequeathing it in Moieties by
Testament. As all Wills are returned to & recorded in the
Commissary's Office, he makes out & returns to the Rent-Roll
Keepers every half year a List of Bequests specifying by
whom every Tract of Land was bequeathed & how divided, so
that each Share might be charged in the Rent-Roll & Debt
Book to the Person to whom it is bequeathed: & as all Deeds
of Bargain & Sale are to be recorded in the Courts before they
are valid the several Clerks return similar Lists of such Lands
as are sold whole or in Parcells to the Rent Roll Keeper & the
Lands so alienated are charged in the Rent-Roll & Debt-Books
accordingly. It is possible that Lands may sometimes be given
away by Deeds of Trust as I observed in my Letter of the 15^th^
Sept^r^ 1754, but as soon as such a Transaction is discovered a
proper Entry is made in the Rent Rolls, & till it be discovered
the Rents on the Land so made away remains charged to the
old Possessor. As there is room to beleive from your Letter p. 173
& M^r^ Stewart's Memorial that that Memorial would not have
been presented if M^r^ Steuart had not been given to understand
by M^r^ Phil Hammond last December that a second Duty of
20/ was about to be imposed, I hope M^r^ Steuart will rest
contented when he finds no such second Duty was imposed &
that the Proposal to impose such a second Duty was made an
Objection to the Bill by the Upper House; I say on these
Considerations & your promise that he has nothing farther to
fear after the present Law expires which will be in four or five
years, I hope he will make no Objection to pay the £1 a poll

Letter Bk. I. on the Convicts that he imports, otherwise we shall be involved in great Difficulties about replacing the £6000 that was granted by that Act of July 1754 for His Majesty's Service & is now expended. There is nothing of a particular or extraordinary Nature in the Laws, or that requires Explanation or Observations; the Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions to the French Colonies is little more than the former Act that expired, & is similar to those that have been made this Summer in the several other Governts I have just received a Letter from General Shirley dated the 7th Inst wherein he tells me that the Report I mentioned in my other Lettr concerning his Inability to act offensively this Summer is too well founded, & earnestly desires me to meet himself Govr Hardy & Govr Morris at N York the 7th of next Month to advise with them on taking some measures for making an early Campaign
p. 174 next Spring in some part of the Continent. I am afraid we shall find ourselves unable to put any Plan that shall be concerted in Execution for want of Money & the necessary Supplies (the Assemblies being not to be depended on) but as he tells me such a Congress is at this time expedient & absolutely necessary for his Majesty's Service I cannot refuse to take the Journey hoping that his Ldp will not be displeased at my Absenting from his Govert for about a fortnight on such an Occasion, & I hope you will be pleased to assure his Ldp that I will take Care to leave Mr Tasker all the necessary powers & Instructions for the well Govt of the Province till I can return again hither. With &c.

Letter Bk. II. p. 154

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Octr 28.

Sr

Yr Favr of the 3d I received & also the Map that you was kind enough to procure & send me by Montgomerie. You will herewith receive a Packett from Genl Shirley containing I presume the minutes of two Councils of war that the General lately called that will shew you how Affairs stand at Ontario. He tells me that he intends to be at New York the 7th of next month & desires I will meet himself, Govr Hardy & Govr Morris there at that time, I know not what can be concerted or effected while such Disputes subsist in several of the Colonies, but as the General desires it I am preparing to set off for N York next Friday. It is reported that Genl Johnson will proceed no farther this Season, I dont know wt Credit is to be given to the Report, tho I am inclined to think it is not entirely witht foundation. Mr Gray did act as Brigade Major

at Fort Cumberland when I was there in the Winter, he has the Reputation of a good Officer, & on Account of His Losses I should be glad to have it in my Power to join with you in acknowledging his Services, I am sorry to tell you that the Case is far otherwise at present & that Gov^r^ Morris & myself are equally in a State of Inability, I expect to return hither in about 3 weeks when I will again embrace another Opportunity of assuring you that I am Letter Bk. II.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sunday evening Nov^r^ 2^d^ 1755.

Sir

I had the favour of yours this morning, and was in hopes you would have been here this day, but imagin the Badness of the weather prevented you from moving so soon, or so fast as you intended.

I am sorry the affairs of my Province are such, that I cannot have the Pleasure of attending you to New York, which I fully intended to have done, but the Inclosd Intelligence will shew you what Circumstances we are in, and my Assembly meets to morrow upon the occasion; what they will do time must discover; but if they have any regard for the Lives and safetys of their Constituents, they will certainly strengthen the Hands of the Government so as to enable it to repell these cruel invasions—I expect you will honour me with your Company at my House and I have a bed for M^r^ Ridout.

The Sherref of this City & County waits on you to Conduct you to town and if I am not able to meet you at the ferry he will Bring you to

Sir
Your Most Obed^t^ Humble
Serv^t^
Rob^t^ H. Morris

Gov^r^ Sharpe

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

I hope this will find you well and either arrivd at New York or nigh it.

Last night an express arrivd with the inclosd intelligence from the westward, soon after which my Assembly sent me a message a copy of which attends you with this, proposing to Inquire what Injustice had been done the Indians now employd in scalping the Inhabitants, and assuring me that they would endeavour to regain their friendship, such Language at this time, and while the Province is under its present Circumstances,

seems to me very Extraordinary, but is of a piece with the rest of their behaviour; upon this answer and intelligence I propose to set off for the back Countys, to put things into some order and do what I can for the safety and defence of the People, tho' very little is in my power.

Herewith I send you a letter that came under Cover to me from the Secretary of State, as also one from the Lords of trade and am in great hast

Sir
Your Most obed^{t}
Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H: Morris

Philadelphia 6th Novem^{r} 1755.

To Gov^{r} of Maryland

Original.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Albany Nov^{r} 16th 1755

Dear Sir,

I receiv'd your Letter of the ninth Instant, and it gives me great Concern to find you had been so long at New York in expectation of meeting me there, & that at last you was oblig'd to return to your Governm^{t} without seeing me: Nothing but the necessity of unforeseen Business of the greatest Consequence, w^{ch} hath inevitably detain'd me here, & will do so five or six days longer, should have occasion'd this disappointment to yourself & me.

Notwithstanding that it may seem unreasonable to the last Degree for me to request you to take the Trouble of a second Visit to New York, yet your presence there, as is herein after desir'd appears to me to be of so great Consequence that I venture to make it.

The Inclos'd will shew you what I am order'd to do by the Lords Iustices; I think the concerting a general plan of Operations for the ensuing year a work of very great Consequence to his Majesty's Service & all the Colonies, and will be the most effectual means for putting an End to Mischiefs now reyning in your own Government, & preventing the like for the future; and I can't but think if you can possibly attend the Council I shall hold at New York on the first or second of December, if possible, without very extraordinary Inconveniencies & Danger's arising to your Province from your Absence for a few Days, it would greatly promote the publick Good, & be well taken by his Majesty's Ministers: If this Opportunity is lost a Congress of Gov^{rs} can't be had this year; & his Majesty's Service, I am perswaded, must suffer greatly for want of it.

I beg, the Instant you receive this, in case you shall not meet me, you will dispatch your Answer to me at New York to let me know it.

I am with great Truth & Esteem,
Dear Sir
Your faithfull, Humble Servant
W Shirley.

Hon^ble^ Horatio Sharpe Esq^r^

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

The enclosed Letter I receiv'd from Commodore Spry & have taken the first opportunity of forwarding it to you.

I am sorry that I cannot acquaint you, of my Assembly's having fallen into such Measures for the present Defence of the back Parts of the Province, that I could have comply'd with. But it seems, as if it was determin'd that we shall never agree—

They have indeed sent me such a Militia Bill, as never was thought of in any other Country; And I am afraid, was intended to answer no Purpose, but amuse the People.

I am
Sir
Your most obed^t^
humble serv^t^
Rob^t^ H: Morris

Philadelphia
Nov^r^ 22^d^ 1755.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

I have the Honour of your Excellencys of the 20^th^ Instant, and am sorry you have been obliged to stay so long for Gen^l^ Shirley, but hope the Company of the many agreable Ladies in New York have in some measure made amends for the want of business, I am sure I have wish'd myself with you ever since you went from hence, not only on account of the pleasure I always enjoy in your Company, but to be free from the plague of having to do with an obstinate Assembly, who seem to have no regard for the safety of the province.—

The Indians have attack'd and destroyed one of the Moravian Settlements near the Forks of Delaware, call'd Mahony, and have put to death all the people except two; This will make it very difficult for me to attend the General at New York, as I must try every thing to induce the Assembly to provide for

the defence of the province but at present can't say whether anything will be done or not, They have indeed pass'd a Militia Bill, but with no other view, but that I shoud refuse it, and then to raise a Clamour against me on that account, but as it is of such a nature as cannot be carried into execution, I have disappointed them and given my consent to it.—

I have wrote to the General not to depend upon my being at York, but will however strain hard for the pleasure of spending at least one day there tho' I dare not be too sanguine in my hopes of doing so, least I shoud be disappointed.

I am very glad the French near Iohnson are not so numerous as they were represented if they were I know not in what manner we shoud resist them. I wish you health and pleasure I am Sir

Your Most obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H: Morris

Nov^{r} 1755
Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Letter Bk. I. p. 174

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

N York the 25th of Novem. 1755—

Sir

The 8th of this Month I arrived here & have been every Day since expecting General Shirley from Albany where he tells me in a Lett^{r} dated the 16th which I yesterday rec^{d} from him "he has been detained by the Necessity of unforeseen Business of the greatest Consequence but gives me Room to expect him some Day this week at farthest. Finding it impracticable to make an Attempt on either of the French on Ontario Lake this Season the General has left 700 Men of his own & S^{r} W^{m} Pepperells Regiments at Oswego under the Command of Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Mercer & taken the Rest of those Regiments down to Winter in the inhabited Parts of this Province. Some
p. 175 Gent^{n} of this City have been informed by their Correspondents at Albany that on the 12th & 13th Inst. Expresses arrived there from General Iohnson's Camp on Lake George with Letters importing that a Body of 8000 or 9000 of the Enemy had been discovered by some Indian Scouts on the East Side of the Lake within 20 Miles of the English Army & advancing towards them. On the Receipt of this Intelligence it seems General Shirley called a Council of War & Impress-Warrants were issued for all the Waggons & Horses that could be got to carry Provisions up to the Army: Col^{o} Scuyler with the Jersey Regiment that was just come to Albany from Oswego & some Provincial Troops that had wth leave left General Iohnson a few Days before marched to reinforce him & the

two British Regiments were ordered to prepare to follow them. Later Letters from Albany persuade Us that the Report of the Indian Scouts was groundless & tell us that upon General Iohnson's having intimated as much by second Letters the March of the British Regiments had been countermanded. . . Upon the Indians making Incursions into Pens[a] towards the End of last Month & murthering many of the Inhabitants Gov[r] Morris convened the Assembly & intreated them to consider of the unhappy Condition of their Defenceless Country & make some Provision for the Safety of the Inhabitants the Assembly has been sitting ever since but notwithstanding the Indians continue their Depredations have renewed their Disputes with the Gover[r] & absolutely refused to grant any money unless by a Land Tax to which the Proprietary's Reserved Lands should be subjected as well as his Tenant's Estates, I dont know whether they have yet concluded the Session but I take it for granted that the Issue thereof will be just the same as was that of the preceeding when I left Annapolis I desired M[r] Tasker to send me immediate Advice if any thing extraordinary should happen in his Ldp's Gov[t] during my Absence or if any Indians should appear again upon our Frontiers, As I have not received any Letter & do not hear that any Mischief has been done there I conclude that things remain in the same Situation that they were when I left Maryland & as they will I hope till I return again thither.

Letter Bk. I. p. 176

[Sharpe to John & William Sharpe.]

Letter Bk. II. p. 155

New York. Nov[r] 25[th] 1755—

D[r] B[r]

In Compliance with Gen[l] Shirley's Request I have every Day since the 8[th] Inst. here expected his Arrival from Albany where he tells me in a Lett[r] dated the 16[th] that I yesterday received he has been detained by the necessity of unforeseen Business of the greatest Consequence contrary to his Expectations & Appointment, & in the same Lett[r] desires me if possible to defer my Return to Maryland a few Days longer arguing it will be well taken by His Majesty's Ministers as our having an Interview at this time is expedient & likely to promote the publick Good. Finding an Attempt on either of the French Forts on Lake Ontario this Season impracticable He has left 700 men of his own & S[r] W[m] Pepperell's Regiments at Oswego under the Command of Lieut Col[o] Mercer & taken the Rest of those Regiments down to winter in the inhabited Parts of the Province. Some Gentlemen of this City were informed last week by their Correspondents at Albany

Letter Bk. II. that on the 12th & 13th Inst. Expresses arrived there from General Iohnsons Camp on Lake George with Lettrs importing that a Body of 8000 or 9000 French & Indians had been discovered by his Scouts within 20 Miles of his Encampment or Fort & advancing towards it, On the Receipt of this Intelli-
p. 156 gence the General called Govr Hardy Lieut Governor Delancey & all the Field Officers that were at Albany to a Council of war & on their breaking up Impress-Warrants were issued for all the Waggons & Horses that could be got to carry Provisions up to the Army. Colo Scuyler with the Jersey Regiment that was just come to Albany from Oswego & some Provincial Troops that had with leave left General Iohnson a few Days before marched towards Lake George to reinforce him & the two British Regiments were ordered to prepare to follow them, but General Iohnson intimating in the mean time that such a motion seemed to him unnecessary & that the Scout's Report was without Foundation the Orders that General Shirley had given were countermanded & the People's Apprehensions of Danger begin to decrease. General Iohnson I suppose will garrison the Fort that he is building on Lake George with some of the Men under his Command & send the Rest home for Winter Quarters. Upon the Indians making Incursions into Pensa about a month ago & murthering many of the Inhabitants Govr Morris convened the Assembly of that Province & intreated them to take some measures to preserve their Country & enable the People to make some Defence, the Assembly has been sitting ever since but done nothing
p. 157 because the Governor will not pass an Act to tax the Proprietary's Estate as well as those of his Tenants, the Govr tells me they had sent him a Militia Bill but such a One as was never thought of in any other Country & seems to be calculated to answer no Purpose farther than to amuse the People, thus are we unhappily circumstanced (for I think I may speak of Maryland as of Pensilvania) & for want of having these Controversies in some manner determined the Proprietaries & their Tenants are equal Sufferers. We impatiently desire to know what Steps will be taken in Consequence of General Braddocks Defeat & the Issue of this Campaign, for my own Part I hope not less than four or five Regiments will be sent over & beleive that that Number with those that are already here & three or four Thousand Irregulars will find enough Business on their hands if it is determined to cut off the Communication between the Enemy's Northern & Southern Settlements. this Year's Experience I flatter myself has demonstrated that the Colonies are not to be depended on for Assistance & unless the People are obliged by an Act of Parliament to furnish Horses Waggons &c & to the utmost of their Power to forward any

future Expedition it will be in vain to concert Plans for Conquest or undertake any Enterprize on the Continent of America— Letter Bk. II.

P. S. to that Copy that was sent to W^m^ Sharpe Esq^r^ the 26^th^ I have just been informed by S^r^ Iohn S^t^ Clair who arrived this morning from Albany that the General has come to a Resolution to raise two more Regiments on the Establishment in America this winter, this I presume he is impowered to do by the Instructions that he has lately received from home; he will not dispose of such Regiments when raised but leave it to his Majesty to appoint the Colonels, As this is the Case I flatter myself you will not forget the Request I have already made that you will exert your Interest in my favour & endeavour to procure me the Command of one of them. I apprehend that a sufficient Number of Men to compleat the two Regiments will not be easily prevailed on to enlist but if your Application shall succeed I am persuaded a Considerable Number of Voluntiers will be found in my own Province— p. 158

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

N York Nov^r^ 26^th^

D^r^ B^r^

Since I sent the Lett^r^ that I writ yesterday on board I have been informed by S^r^ I S^t^ Clair who arrived from Albany this morning that General Shirley has come to a Resolution to raise 2 more Regiments in America this winter, this I presume he finds himself impowered to do by the Instructions w^ch^ he has lately received from home as Colonels are not already nominated for such two Regiments & the General will not take upon himself to appoint any I should be glad you would embrace this Opportunity of exerting your Interest in my favour & endeavour to procure me the Command of one of these Regiments; such a Nomination will enable me to raise a considerable Number of Men in Maryland & I am apt to think that unless some Gentlemen of Interest on the Continent have the Command 'twill not be very easy to raise such a number of Men in these Colonies. I hope Ld Baltimore will not be averse to such a Step but it will be proper to consult him thereon— p. 159

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 176

N York the 27^th^ of November 1755—

My Ld

In compliance with General Shirley's Request of which your Ldp has been advised I have been at this Place expecting

Letter Bk. I. his Arrival ever since the 8th Inst. & am desired by a Lettr which a few Days ago I received from him to continue here till the 2d of Decr when he hopes to have dispatched the Business of the greatest Consequence which he says has inevitably detained him at Albany so long beyond his Intention & Appointment. finding an Attempt on either of the French-Forts on Lake Ontario this year impracticable on Account of the Season's being so far advanced before a sufficient quantity of
p. 177 Provisions & other Necessaries could be got to Oswego, & by reason the French Garrisons both at Cataracui & Niagara were found to be very strong. The General has employed his Troops in strengthening Oswego with other Works & left for the Defence thereof this Winter about 900 Men of his own & Sr Wm Pepperels Regiments under the Command of Lieutt Colo Mercer We have at present on the Lake a Sloop & Schooner that carry 6 Carriage & 20 Swivel Guns each but as the French are building Vessels of greater Force at Cataracui to dispute the Navigation of the Lake with us next Summer it is said General Shirley will order some Vessels of more than 100 Ton Burthen to be set on the Stocks immediately & a great Number of Whale Boats to be built this Winter as they are found more proper for the Navigation of the Lake than Battoes or any other small Craft. General Iohnson is building a Fort at the place where he was Encamped when the French attacked him the 8th Septr it is about 40 Miles on this side Crown Point on an Arm of Lake George & 70 miles from Albany. twas reported that the two British Regiments would releive the Provincials & garrison the Fort on Lake George this winter but tis now said that a sufficient Number of General Johnson's own Troops will be left there & that the Regiments will take up their Winter Quarters at Albany where Barracks are building for their Reception. I am told the General finds himself impowered & is come to a Resolution to raise two more Regiments in these Colonies, as it is very likely His Majesty has not yet appointed any Colonels to such Regiments
p. 178 & as one of them will probably be ordered to Maryland & Virginia I flatter myself from your Ldp's Kindness last Year in permitting me to accept the Command of such Troops as should then have been raised & to be absent from Your Ldp's Govt for a While if His Majesty's Service should so require, that your Ldp will not be averse to my Friends making Application on this Occasion in my favour & if Your Ldp approves of such Request I will presume to hope that I shall not want your Ldps kind Offices to procure me one of the Regiments that are now to be raised. As I desired Mr Tasker to send me an Express Messenger to advise me if any thing extraordinary should happen in your Ldp's Province during my

Absence (which I little expected would have been so long) or Letter Bk. I.
if the Indians should appear again on the Frontiers my having
received no Lett[r] from Annapolis since I left it makes me hope
that every thing is quiet there & that the Indians will not
venture to disturb your Ldps Tenants who are in some measure
protected by the Forts that are built in Frederick C[ty] while
they find the Frontiers of Pens[a] more easily approachable, &
there is little Probability of that Province being put in a better
posture of Defence while the Assembly refuses to make a good
Militia Law or to make any Provision for the Safety of the
Inhabitants. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Albemarle.] Letter Bk. II. p. 159

Nov. 27[th] 1755 N York

My Ld

I have been at this place near three weeks waiting General
Shirley's Arrival from Albany where I find he has been detained
contrary to his Expectation so long after the time that he
desired me to be here at an Interview with S[r] Charles Hardy
Gov[r] Morris & himself. As our ill success in Iuly enabled the
Enemy to reinforce the Garrisons on the Lakes while the Diffi-
culty of getting a sufficient quantity of Provisions & those
things that were necessary for such an Enterprize to Oswego
early in the season made an Attempt on either of the French
Forts at Cataracui or Niagara impracticable this year General
Shirley contented himself with rendering Oswego more defen-
sible & building two small Vessels on Ontario Lake that carry
6 Carriage & 20 Swivel Guns each the French it seems to
prevent the ill Consequences that would follow our being
Masters of the Lake are building larger Vessels than Ours at p. 160
Cataracui w[ch] has determined Gen[l] Shirley to order two of
much greater force than those we already have to be built
immediately, that we may be able to dispute the Navigation of
the Lake w[ch] seems to be of greater Consequence than any
other Place or Pass on the Continent. The better to secure
w[t] we already possess on Ontario & be the more able to reduce
the French Forts thereon in the Spring the General has come
to a Resolution to raise two more Regiments in these Colonies
this winter, this I presume he is impowered to do by the
Instructions that he has lately received, but I find that he is not
authorised to appoint Colonels to them & that they are not
yet disposed of: Your Ldp will excuse me if the many
Instances that I have received of your Ldp's Kindness & favour
encourage me to ask your Ldps good Offices on this Occasion
& to hope that your Ldp will wish me to have the Command

Letter Bk. II. of one of them. It is said that the Provincial Troops consisting of about 2700 that are under the Command of General Iohnson could not be persuaded to proceed after the Action on Lake George but they have built a pretty strong Fort there & another about 20 miles on this side which will be garrisoned one with 600 & the other with 300 of the Provincials while the rest return home for winter quarters. The men that we have raised in Maryland & posted on our Frontiers deter the Indians from appearing there but I hear that Pens[a] which is quite defenceless & on Account of the Disputes that subsist between
p. 161 the Gov[r] & Assembly likely to continue so suffers severely by the Incursions of the Indians who have lately approached within 60 miles of Phil[a] & laid waste the Country—

[Sharpe to Hanbury.]

Nov[r] 27[th] 1755—

Si

At the Request of General Shirley I am expecting him at this place where he tells me he is desirous of having an Interview w[th] S[r] Cha Hardy, Gov[r] Morris & myself. The General is now at Albany where he tells me he has been detained by some Business of the greatest Importance but promises to leave it about this time. As it was found impracticable to make any Attempt on the French Forts at Cataracui or Niagara this year on Account of the Enemy's Strength at those places as well as the want of sufficient quantities of Provision which could not be got up to Oswego till very late in the summer, the General employed himself in building some Vessels on the Lake & making Oswego more defensible; to garrison it this winter he has left about 800 Men of his own & S[r] W[m] Pepperell's Regiments, & the Rest at some little Forts that are built on the Mohawks River & the Oneida Lake between Albany & Ontario. The General I am informed is impowered & is come to a Resolution to prepare for the next Campaign by raising two more Regiments in these Colonies this winter which will be on the Establishment, As the General will not
p. 162 take upon himself to appoint Colonels to them & as I presume they are not already disposed of, encourag'd by the Readiness you shewed last year to do me Service I take the Liberty to desire your Interest on this Occasion & flatter myself you will not refuse to favour my Sollicitation. General Iohnson is building a Fort on an Arm of Lake George where he was attacked by the French in Sept[r] last but obliged them to retire with the Loss it is said of 100 or 200 of their Men & their General the Baron de Dieskau who lies ill of his wounds in this City. When General Iohnson has finished his Fort he will

garrison it with some of the 2700 Provincial Troops that are with him & permit the Rest to return home for Winter Quarters; The Indians have lately done a great Deal of Mischief in Pens[a] & continue still to make Incursions & cut off the Inhabitants who make no Defence & by w[t] I can learn are not likely to be put in a better Posture as the Gov[r] & Assembly cannot come to any Agreement about raising a Sum of Money for that Purpose. Letter Bk. II.

[Proceedings of Council of War.] Original.

At a Council of War held by His Excellency W[m] Shirley Esq[r] General & Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North America at N York on Friday the 12[th] Day of Dec[r] 1755

Present

His Excellency William Shirley Esq[r] General &c
His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Kn[t] Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of New York.
The Hon[ble] Hor[o] Sharpe Lieut[t] Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Maryland.
The Hon[ble] Robert Hunter Morris Lieut[t] Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.
The Hon[ble] Thomas Fitch Governor & Commander in Chief of the Colony of Connecticutt.
Colonel Thomas Dunbar
Major Charles Craven
S[r] John S[t] Clair Deputy Quarter Master General
Major Iames Kinneer.
Major Iohn Rutherford.

The Generals Commission being read together with Part of a Letter to him dated the 28[th] of last August from The Right Hon[ble] S[r] Thomas Robinson one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State & part of His Majesty's Seventh Instruction to the late General Braddock; Several Points of Rank which were moved by some of the Members of the Council were setled after which His Excellency adjourned the Council to the Next Day at 9 o Clock in the Forenoon—

Saturday December the 13[th] 1755 The Council met according to Adjournment present as before together with Colonel Peter Schuyler.

His Excellency acquainted the Council that he had convened them to give their Opinion & Advice upon a Plan of Operations which he proposes for the next years Campaign in order to effect the several services he is directed by His Majesty's

Instructions to carry into Execution. That in Order to inform them fully of the State of those Services, it was necessary for him to acquaint them that in His Majesty's said Instructions it is declared.

1st that whereas The French would in all probality endeavour to reinforce the several Posts they have on the River Ohio & on the Lakes to the westward of it, by sending Troops up the River Missisippi, it was His Royal Will & Pleasure that as the Season would allow Troops to take the Field much sooner in the Southern parts than in any other parts of his Colonies he should begin his operations there as soon as the Weather would permit; & was therefore ordered to direct the Troops under his Command to be carried up the River Potowmack as high as Will's Creek in order to proceed to Fort Du Quesne—

2dly That as soon as the late General should have been able to drive the French from their Posts on the Ohio he should take proper Measures for Erecting a good & sufficient Fort on the most convenient Pass upon the said River & to leave a strong Garrison consisting of the three Independant Companies then in Virginia, sustained by such a part of the whole of the Provincial Troops as he shall find necessary to defend the same & to protect the Indians in those parts as well as the Settlements which had been broke up—

3dly That the next Service which His Majesty directs & declares to be of the greatest Importance & therefore to demand the utmost Care & Attention is the Dislodging the French from the Forts they have at the Falls & passes of the Niagara, & the Erecting such a Fort there as shall for the future make His Majesty's Subjects Masters of the Lake Ontario & that if for this purpose the said late General Braddock should find it necessary to have Ships upon the said Lake Ontario he should concert with the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships & the Governors of New England & N York the manner & Means of building & manning such Vessels as shall be most proper for that Service.

4thly That it is in the said Instructions declared to be His Majesty's further Will & pleasure that in order to accellerate the Execution of so salutary an undertaking the said General Braddock should in case the Regiments intended to be raised by Govr Shirley & Sr Wm Pepperell should be ready to act before the French could be drove from their Posts on the Ohio to employ the said two Regiments in the immediate Reduction of Niagara & Crown Point.

5thly That in case the said two Regiments of Shirley & Pepperell should not be raised & ready to act till the time that the Service on the Ohio should be finished it is declared to be

His Majesty's Will & Pleasure that if then the said General Braddock should find it necessary to march his whole Force to make himself Master of the Posts before mentioned at Niagara he should take the most prudent means of Joining his said Force with the British Batalions to effect that most essential & necessary Service.

6thly That if the said General Braddock should find that the two British Regiments would be sufficient for performing the Service at Niagara, he might then employ the two American Regiments at the same time in Dispossing the French from their Posts at Crown Point on the Lake Champlain, which was the next point he was to endeavour to gain, but that no positive Instructions could be given him on this head, as he could only judge thereafter, whether such a seperate Operation could be undertaken at the same time that he was making himself Master of the most Material one at Niagara, however that after he should have possessed himself of the Niagara Forts & should have opened a safe Communication betwixt that & Oswego it was His Majesty's Will & pleasure that the next Service which he should proceed upon should be

7thly The Reduction of the Fort at Crown Point & Erecting another upon the Lake Champlain in such place as he should find most effectual for Bridling the French Indians in those Parts & for securing & protecting the Neighbouring Colonies—

His Excellency thereupon observed to the Council that the Reasons assigned in His Majesty's Instructions for ordering General Braddock to begin his Operations upon the Ohio seems to be principally founded on some information which had been given that the Support of the French Forts & Settlements upon that River is drawn from their Settlements upon the Missisippi.

His Excellency the General then acquainted the Council that none of the Attempts made for effecting the before mentioned Services in the last Summer had been carried into Execution but that these several before mentioned Parts of the Expedition ordered by His Majesty remained to be executed in the ensuing Spring—

His Excellency then observed to the Council that the only practicable Entrance which His Majesty's Subjects have into the Lake Ontario is at Oswego thro the River Onondaga which is the only Harbour fit to receive Vessels of any Force that His Majesty hath upon that Lake & that Oswego is situated in the Country of the Onondagoes which lies in the middle of that Inhabited by the Six Nations & is the only Trading House the English have for carrying on a Commerce & Correspondence with the Western Indians That the only practicable Entrance the French have into the same Lake is thro the River by them

at first called the River Iroquoise but in some of their late Maps the River S^{t} Lawrence, & near Fort Frontenac which is situated on the North East Edge of that Lake at about 50 Miles Distance from & nearly opposite to Oswego, that whilst the French are in possession of that Fort & the Harbour there with a free Passage into the Lake thro the River Iroquois together with their Harbour at Tronto on the Lake they will have it in their power to build & maintain Vessels of Force upon the Lake which unless His Majesty shall keep up at least an equal Naval Force there, may not only greatly annoy any Fort which should be erected by His Majesty's Subjects at the North East End of the Pass at Niagara, but endanger the Loss of Oswego itself to the French which would inevitably be attended with the Defection of the several Castles of the Indians of the Six Nations to the French Interest in a short time & with the Loss of the whole Country as far as Schenectady, & very possibly be soon followed with the Loss of the City of Albany—

That from the best Information he can procure it appears to him that the French Forts & Settlements at Niagara upon Lake Erie & the Ohio & even as far as Misilimakinack upon the Lake Huron are wholly supported with Stores & provisions from Montreal by Water Carriage thro the River Iroquois & across the Lake Ontario & not from the French Settlements on the Missisippi which being at near the Distance of 2000 Miles from any of them are too remote to afford them any Support, especially as the Navigation from thence to the French Settlements on the Ohio is against the Stream & attended with other Difficulties in many Places That consequently the Dislodging the French from Fort Frontenac & their small Fort at Tronto & barring up their Entrance into the Lake Ontario thro the River Iroquois would cut off all their Forts & Settlements upon that & the other Lakes & the River Ohio from all Support from Canada without which they could not possibly long subsist—

That therefore His Excellency proposes the following Plan of Operations for the ensuing year Viz.

That a Body of 5000 Troops should be assembled at Oswego by the last week in April & Fort Frontenac & La Galette upon the River Oswegatie be attacked with 4000 of them in the beginning of May leaving 1000 at Oswego for the Protection of that place.

That after dislodging the French Troops at Cataracui & La Galette they should be employed in attacking the French Forts & Settlements at Niagara Presqu' Isle the River au Beuf, Detroit & Misilimakinac & to secure the several Posts there; That 3000 Troops should at the same time be marched to Fort Duquesne by Land from Wills's Creek to attack that Fort.

That Crown Point should be at the same time attacked w^th^ 6000 Troops, a Fort afterwards built on Lake Champlain & one or more Vessels built to navigate that Lake, & in order to divide the Force of Canada more effectually after breaking up all the French Settlements upon the River Chaudiere with 2000 Troops about the same time to make a Feint with them on Quebec at the Mouth of the said River which is within three Miles distance from that Metropolis situate on the opposite Side of the River S^t^ Lawrence.

His Excellency then desired the Opinion & Advice of the Council upon every part of the proposed plan & particularly whether the Number of Troops proposed for carrying every part of the said Expedition into Execution at one & the same time was sufficient or whether any less or greater & what number might be sufficient to do it—

His Excellency then observed to the Council that if the beforementioned Attempts for the Reduction of the French Forts & Settlements upon the Lake & the Ohio & Crown Point, should not be made at the same time but one of them only carried on at a time these Dangers would ensue. Viz. If an Attempt should be made upon the Lake Ontario for the Reduction of the Forts at Cataracui & Niagara &c without any against Crown Point, The French would either bend the chief part of the whole Force of Canada to oppose it in which Case so large a Body of Troops would be required to encounter it there as would make the Transportation of them & their Stores & Provisions to Oswego in time almost impracticable or else the French would muster so strong a Force against Albany as might take it & by that means likewise cut off all Communication between it & the Forces at Oswego which must receive its whole Support of Stores & Provisions from thence—

On the other hand if an Attempt should be made for the Reduction of Crown Point only & not against Fort Cataracui Niagara &c at the same time Oswego which from the Intelligence gained at that place appears to be the great Object of the French would be in Danger of being lost to them in case they should bend their principal Force against it, which Loss would be an irretrieveable one to the English, as it would not only be Loss of the Country as far as Albany together with the Six Nations but give the French the Dominion of the Great Lake & the whole Southern Country.

His Excellency then acquainted the Council that immediately before his Departure from Oswego as well as since he had received Intelligence that the French are building at least three large Vessels of Force in the Harbour of Cataracui which together with those they had already built will be much superiour to those built by us on the Lake whereupon he likewise desires the Opinion & Advice of the Council concerning

his causing more Vessels to be built & of a larger Force upon the Lake that what His Majesty hath there already & how many such Vessels it is necessary to have built for gaining the Mastery of that Lake—

The Council after taking the several Matters into Consideration gave it as their unanimous Opinion 1st That it is most essentially necessary at all Events to secure the Navigation of the Lake Ontario, & from the Intelligence the General has informed them he has already received of Vessels building by the Enemy at Fort Frontenac, that at least Three Vessels be built immediately at [Oswego] large & Force as the Depth of the Water at the Entrance of the Harbour of Oswego will admit & that on any future Intelligence of the Enemy's encreasing their Naval Force, that the General should build such & so many more Vessels as he finds necessary for securing the Mastery of the Lake.

2dly That one Expedition be carried on against Crown Point & another against the French Settlements & Encroachments on Lake Ontario that both Armies rendezvous at their respective Places of Destination soon as possible in the Spring—

3dly That an Army of 10,000 Men will be necessary for the Expedition against Crown Point—

4thly That an Army of 6000 Men at least will be necessary for the Expedition against the French Encroachments on the Lake Ontario &c.

5thly That as to the Attempt proposed to be made upon Fort Duquesne they are unanimously of Opinion that such a Measure would answer very good purpose by availing the English Forces of the Assistance of that portion of the Southern Indians which are still in Alliance with them & preventing those in Alliance with the French from opposing our Operations to the Northward & therefore advise the General to recommend it to the Western Governments to undertake an Attempt upon that Fortress, & do it in such a manner as will not in the least interfere with the Expedition already agreed on—

6thly That as to the Feint with 2000 Men against Quebec by the way of the River Chaudiere they are unanimously of Opinion that it should be carried into Execution provided it can be done without prejudice to the other Parts of the Service already agreed on—

7th That with Regard to the Operations on Lake Ontario it was the Opinion & Advice of the Majority of the Council that they be begun by the Attack of Cataracui

Lastly the Council considering the several Services to be carried on in North America are unanimously of Opinion that an Additional Number of Regular Troops will be necessary for effectually recovering & Securing his Majestys Rights & Dominions upon this Continent.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

[Dec. 1755]

Dear Sir/

I did myself the Honor to wait on you this evening to beg the favour of you to postpone your Journey to the southward till tuesday next, as Gen[l] Shirley Insists on my staying till then to adjust some Indian Affairs that at this time are of very great importance to Pensilvania in particular and to the Western Colonys in Gen[l] as you will see by the inclosed note which I recieved a little before dinner, and after I had sent away my horses and shase.

I hope the Affairs of your Province will not require so immediate an attendance as to deprive me of the pleasure of your Company to and at Philad[a]—as nothing shall detain me beyond the time mentiond in the Gen[ls] letter; I will wait on you in the morning to know your resolution as to this matter and in the mean time wish you a good night. And am Sir

Your most faithfull
and obed[t] Serv[t]
Rob[t] H. Morris

Friday night
Gov. Sharpe

[Shirley's Proposals for Treaty with the Indians.] Original.

By His Excellency Major General William Shirley General & Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America &c.

Upon taking into his Consideration the very Great importance of the numerous nations of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies. The advantages that will accrue to the English in General from their Friendship & the Particular necessity there is at this time, to enter into a Solemn Treaty with them in order not only to secure them to the British Interest, so far as to Prevent them from joining in the Designs of the French, but to engage them to Assist his Majestys Subjects in Defending their frontiers & annoying their Enemies.

It is Proposed,

1[st] That a Treaty be held with the several Tribes of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies, at such time & Place, as shall be agreed on between the Goverments of North & South Carolina & notified by them to the General & to the other Western Colonies as far north as Pensylvania.

2[dly] That one or more Commissioners should be Appointed by each of the Western Provinces from South Carolina to Pen-

sylvania both inclusive to carry on that Treaty, in behalf of his Majesty, & of those Colony's to be particularly instructed by their respective Governments for that Purpose.

3dly That such Instructions be without Delay transmitted to the General & that he or the Commander in Chief of the Kings Forces for the time being give such further Instructions to the Commissioners collective or seperately as he shall think necessary for his Majesty's Service.

4thly That the Governments of Virginia & the two Carolina's as soon as Possible Dispatch the Messengers to those Southern Tribes inviting them to a General Treaty in his Majesty's name & in the names of all the said Western Provinces, and that the time & Place agreed on for such Treaty be particularly mentioned in such invitation.

5thly That at such appointed place, Provision be made for the Reception & entertainment of the Indians that may Attend the Treaty, by the Province wherein such place is, to be Afterwards Reinbursed in Proportion by the other Colony's.

6thly That money be Provided by the said Western Provinces for defraying the Expence of the Treaty & for Providing a Proper Assortment of Goods to be given in Presents to the Indians that shall attend, & sent into their Country's to be distributed among those that cannot personally Assist at the Treaty.

7thly That the Commissioners be instructed to engage those Tribes to Assist the English in the Present Dispute & to take up the Hatchet against the French & their Indians & that they be enabled to Promise English Pay & Provisions Arms, Ammunition & Indian Cloaths, to such of their Warriors as shall Join his Majesty's Forces, or the Troops in the Service of any of the Western Provinces, and as to such of them as shall incline to Attack the French upon the Ohio, or any of the Indians in their Alliance to Promise them certain Rewards for every Prisoner or Scalp they shall bring in, & to Appoint certain Places to which such Scalps or Prisoners shall be brought.

8thly That Proper persons be Appointed by the Commissioners to Return with the Indians from the Treaty into their own Country, if Necessary to conduct the Warriors to such places as shall be Appointed for their Rendezvous where stores of Provisions, Arms & Ammunition should be Provided for their use.

Original.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London December 23d 1755.

Sir./

By this opportunity inclosed you have Duplicates of His Lordship's Instructions, the 22d of August, the 9th of September,

with His Additional Instructions since of the 27th of October last, particularly relating to Popery Acts of Parliament.—Your having had Notice from His Lower House of Assembly by an Address recited in their Journal dated the 23d of June last, of Persons in Office of Government charged as if offending against those Acts.

He thinks it Necessary to Signify to you some Clauses, as parts of Statutes in Law through the Dominions of His Majesty's Realm, and reminds you thereof (not with the least doubt of your want of obedience thereto) as main Guards to our happy Establishment. He also directs me to warn you against the Jesuits and all Popish Priests &c. and to require of His Magistrates in the Province to watch and to punish their transactions and offences agreeable to the Laws.—Indeed the present Dangers Cause general Care to take heed and secure such prescribed real Enemies to our King Church and Government, the Protection of which My Lord is happy and all belonging to His Province in your Principles and Sincere Assiduity therein, and of your justly maintaining the Publick Wellfare,

The London Gazette Extraordinary October 30th wherein is an Extract of a Letter from Governor Wentworth to the Right Honble Sir Thomas Robinson one of His Majesty's Principal Secretary's of State, dated at Portsmouth in New Hampshire September the 10th 1755, a Printed Copy of which Letter I inclose to you, writ by Major Johnson from the Camp at Lake George September the 9th 1755, on His March with His Majesty's Forces to Crown Point, and meeting with the French on their March towards the Encampment at the Carrying Place where some of our American Troops were posted. The Action that Insued thereupon is Glorious on the English Side, And By Mr Johnson well Conducted, and gained by him with Military Skill and Bravery by the officers and Troops.

The Baron Dirskau the French General in His Conduct seems to have fallen into an Ambuscade like Major General Bradock on his March to Fort Du Quesne. Mr Johnson here is in high Esteem and as a Distinguishable Mark of Reward for his real Service, His Majesty has dignifyed him with the stile and Title of a Baronet.

Under Cover are Votes of the House of Commons containing a Message from His Majesty to the House on the deplorable Event on the first of last month by an Earthquake at Lisbon.—Since from Portugal the Damage said is very considerable, the King's Palace is reported down with Publick Edifices and many Houses of which the Tops almost in General fell in; It is said the Earth did not open, some Inhabitants are destroyed in the Ruins, but few English; who are mostly retired to

Oporto or on board the Ships in the Harbour. His Majesty out of His Paternal Care for His Subjects, has dispatched £50000 in Effects, viz^{t} Salt Beef, Pork, Butter, Flour, Rice &c. as Relief to His Subjects, and His faithfull Ally the King of Portugal.

Inclosed is His Majesty's Speech to Both Houses of Parliament. On an Address to the Speech, after a long Debate whether the Russians & Hessians Troops should be taken into the Pay of Great Britain, the House divided 311 for, against 105.—Sir George Lyttelton is made Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer in the Room of M^{r} Legge who has resign'd. M^{r} Fox Secretary of State in the Room of Sir Tho^{s} Robinson replaced in the Wardrobe Office. M^{r} William Pitt Paymaster to the Army and M^{r} George Grenville Treasurer of the Navy with others, are said, will resign or be out.

Yours of the 15th of September gives My Lord Comfort, in which you mention "you have not heard that any Enemy has been seen in the Province since Col Dunbar left us" Col Ellison in America is appointed Colonel of his Regiment, who 'tis said is ordered home as Deputy Governor of Gibraltar. I hope the Provincial Troops of Virginia will answer Gov^{r} Dinwiddie's Expectations, and that Maryland has or will Assist therein. My Lord desires by the Earliest opportunity you'l send a General Account of what Aid His Province has given and done for His Majesty's and the Publick Service during these dangerous times; The Account is necessary, the Lords for Trade and Plantations having notify'd the same to the Agents here of the American Colonies, mention'd to be laid before the King and Parliament.

By yours of the 6th of October the Forces with Governor Shirley at Oswego being but 1400 men seems of no Advantage against the French well secured at Niagara Especially as ours are in want of Provisions; His Lordship hopes His Assembly will acquiesce in sending Commissioners to Albany,impowering them with the Commissioners of the Neighbouring Colonies to Consult of proper Measures for the Interest of the Common Cause, and to Stipulate for necessary Supplies each Province shall furnish before the Ensuing Spring.—Your inclosed I have sent to your Brother John as also yours to Sir Tho^{s} Robinson, your future Letters you must address to M^{r} Fox Secretary of State

Inclosed is a Letter to M^{r} Lloyd the Agent sealed with a flying Seal, on your reading it please to put a wafer under the Seal and deliver it him. you will observe his Conduct with regard to My Lord's Affairs, which if he does not alter by better Conduct, he must resign or His Lordship will order his Dismission from his office; as this may happen, His Lordship

desires you will well Consider without Delay in acquainting with a Proper Person to Succeed him.

I hope you've mine of the 13th of May in which I inform'd you of His Lordship's Consent for your placing at the Council Board, Mr Tilghman Col Jenkins Henry or Philip Keys, either of which you approved in the Room of Mr Dulany deceased.

The 10th of December 1754 in the Deal Box I then sent you which contain'd His Lordship's Instructions with my Letters to you and others, were also inclosed Six written Books (properly to be called Nominal Rentals) of Tenants belonging to six Counties in the Province which I return'd received from Mr Tasker the late Agent, and under Cover with those Books, inclosed were Sundry Bills of Exchange with their Protests, and My Lord's Instructions inclosed in my Letter of the same date to Mr Lloyd; The Instructions with the Letter he has since Acknowledged, but not Noting to me his Receipt of the Bills nor Rentals gives Disquiet; though a List of the Bills was Entered in my Letter with mention of the Rentals: The Letter sent him an Account of their Imperfection, they being not properly made out, nor Authenticated according to Instructions sent Mr Tasker from His Lordship's Guardians dated the 14th of May and in Consequence of my Letter and Plan of account of the 15th of the same Instant sent 1752; Upon all which matters he has had His Lordship's Instructions to follow, and of which His Lordship desires you'l urge him the Return, and desires your Intelligence about his Receipt of the Contents contain'd herein, his long delay making it necessary for your Assistance with regard to his prejudicial Neglects.

His Lordship sends you his best wishes, and hopes all things in His Province will be well, and that Publick Broil may Cease; giving you Leisure thereby for the Compleation of His Private Affairs; of which, the Regulation and Receipt of his Revenues stand greatly in need of, and would much Encrease by your Project of the Sheriffs well modell'd and Secured at 6 p Centum; and thereon you have His Approbation in mine the 13th of May last, which rendered into Execution would be a fix'd acquisition of real Service, obligatory on him and His Heirs to you.—The Tobacco Law has been months in hand with Mr Hamersley His Lordship's Sollicitor at Law with directions to obtain Mr Attorney General's opinion, not yet received, Delay from such is Certain and unshunable; giving further opportunity to Inform you that Determination by the Lord Chancellor on the Cause between the Messieurs Penns and His Lordship is postponed, by Allowance of an Amendment to the Plaintiffs Bill; I fear Endless in dispute! therefore My Lord renews and recommends to your Serious Consideration, Care, Assiduity and Vigilance in Maintenance, and against His

Adversarys Purloin of His old settled Possessions and just Rights on the Eastern Shore, and that you'l Encrease the same with Grants to Tenants by all Justifiable Means.

War or Peace seems here at a stand, Hostility with France and England goes on by Reprisals at Sea, the Equivalent thereby is greatly at present with us; here is arrived great Boast from Paris of the Toulon and Brest Squadrons, when join'd they threaten us Destruction! Brag's a good Dog, But holdfast's a better. We have of their Navy and Trading Ships in hand. The following are some operations of our Parliament Sittings for 1756 viz^{t} 34,000 Effective men including 3759 Invalids.—£209,854 for maintaining the Forces in the Plantations.—£15,243. and £146,721. for the Charge of the office of Ordinance and Extra Expences not provided for of that office.—50,000 men for the Sea Service at £4. ꝑ man ꝑ month including ordinance, with £219,021 for the ordinary.

After very long debates with Divisions on the Russians and Hessians Troops as Supplys to His Majesty, It passed in the Affirmative 263 against 69. viz^{t}

That £100,000 be granted to the Empress of Russia for 72000 Auxiliary Troops, if necessary, pursuant to Treaty.

That £54,140. 12.6 be granted to the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel for 8,000 Troops in hand and 4,000 Horse as Auxiliaries, pursuant to Treaty.

That £10,000 be granted to the Elector of Bavaria pursuant to Treaty.

Land Tax Four shillings in the pound.

On Condemnation of the French Captures, It passed in the Negative 211 against 81.

On His Majesty's Message on the deplorable Event to Portugal, £100,000 Relief to that Kingdom.

Inclosed I send you the London Gazette in which is a Letter, Lisbon the 6th of December 1755 from Abraham Castres Esq^{r} His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to the King of Portugal, on the Calamities from a most tremendous Earthquake, on the first of the last month, which Reduced that City to a heap of Rubish and Ruins, followed by a Conflagration of more Mischief than the Earthquake it self.

It is Certain as M^{r} Hervey Observes in his Thereon and Aspasio, Speaking of Earthquake, he says; Of all Divine Visitations, this is the most terrible Vindictive, puts a Period in a few Minutes to the work of Ages, ruins all without Distinctions, and there is no Defence against its Stroke.

His Portuguese Majesty with his Family were retired to their Palace near Belem by the Sea, about three Leagues off, and ('tis said) the Eve before the inhuman Festival of the Inquisition, by Burning the unfortunate People Condemn'd by

the Black Art & Dealings of the Romish Priests; The Divine Stroke is reported at the time of Enterance on that Festival.—The Calamity Befalling the whole Maritime Coast gave alarm to His Portuguese Majesty, who arrived in View to the downfall of his Towers, His Gorgeous Palaces, Solemn Temples, and of his Metropolis (the Stroke being particular at the City of Lisbon) where fell the Custom house, the Key Rich with Effects from all nations, and Crowded with People, Sunk at once Fathomless! The Rich India House, with the remainder of that opulent City left as a Rack behind! of which the best Effects are Dissolved by the General Conflagration that Ensued.—The King with Amaze and Fear retired under a Tent, attended with the Lamentations and Shrieks of his People, of whom the most were Naked, Destitute, Bereft of all! And upon rough Computation amounts to Twenty Millions Sterling and of People more than 50,000. The only Relief left was the Mint Rich in Treasure, and some Provision Vessels with Stores that fortunately arrived.—I know not its Equal in Misfortune, But that of Sodom and Gomorrah—destroy'd in the Land of the Canaanites, unless the Extention of the Deluge.

Account from Paris, mention a Jesuit stil'd Nicholas the 1st who is said to have assumed the Sceptre of Paraguay. It is there given out the Title of King has Succeeded that of Generalissimo, which he had before, as is the Custom of the Country of the Missions, where all Troops are Subordinate to the Provincial Father and alledge, the Natives of Paraguay have made Surrender of the Soil to Them; therefore they deem themselves Lords of the Soil and all things on it, and consequently may put in a Plea against the New Regulation of Limits between Spain and Portugal, at least their Title to Paraguay is as good as that of the Bishop of Rome to the Territories called S^{t} Peter's Patrimony.—Sure these Casuists are from Satan! not from the Divine S^{t} Peter's whole Kingdom was not of this World.

It has been talk'd and is of a Proposition to Parliament of raising 1,500 to consist only of Swiss and Germans, to be sent to Pensilvania; if not compleated in Europe than of such Foreigners in that Province, and the Command thereof to a M^{r} Prevo a German; Here is a great Roar against it.—It disagreeing with the Rules of Policy in Regard to Officers here and America, I think it will be drop'd. On it's being mention'd to me by Particulars, I gave for answer, There could be no doubt of much Benefit from Forces sent to America, But to be composed of Corps Foreigners Quarter'd particularly at Philadelphia, in either Case with Submission I Judged would give great Dissatisfaction in America: It would Enrich Pen-

silvania and Aggrandize the Capital; and Strengthen to do for that Province what by Quakerisme is denied, that of Defence; and under such Circumstance might ease Them at a Dead Lift and Befriend Them in that which the inward Spirit must move them to do agreeable to the Fundamental Law of Nature, that of Self Preservation.—It is alledged, Force composed of Foreigners who have always been true to hired Trust, their Service is most likely will be best Effected by Command received in Language from Native Officers. I Learn the Question on this matter is put off till after the Holidays, to which time this day both Houses adjourn'd to the 13th of January Ensuing.

May all Happiness attend you and the Province of Maryland is the sincere wish of him who is with all Respect and Esteem

Dear Sir
Yours Sincerely
Cæcilˢ Calvert

Postᵗ. Inclosed are Publick news Papers, with the London Gazette containing many alterations in offices, with Levy of Additional Regiments, I've not time to inclose you a Duplicate of mine of the 22ᵈ of August, hoping 'tis with you; as the most materials therein being mentioned in the Postᵗˢ of succeeding Letters.

By my Postcript to Mʳ Lloyd you'l observe he has in some measure answer'd Complaint against him. His Lordship hopes your Endeavours with relation to the Sheriffs being the Collectors of His Revenues will succeed.

Postᵗ On closing this I have yours of the 20th & 26th of October in a Box with the Laws passed at a Session of Assembly the 23ᵈ of June 1755, The Ship being upon her departure gives but little time to observe few parts of yours.—To the Affair of Mʳ Stewart's upon Convicts, Mʳ Attorney General here Expressed himself to me with much Warmth against the Assembly in Assuming to themselves to charge Acts of Parliament, that the duty of his office obliged him to protect, And if My Lord did not Dissent to that Maryland Act he would severely proceed against it. his hint I understood was, he would move the House of Commons of a violation upon an Act of theirs by an Act of the Maryland Assembly & Contrary to their Charter. the Consequence is easily conceived, that of a Censure falling Both upon the Proprietor and Houses of Assembly; Both which I had no other way to Protect from Harm, But denying a Duty charged by any Act of Assembly ipso facto nam'd as Convicts, and of which I would convince him by sending him the Act upon Duties Personally; He

desired I would, which I did inclosed in a Letter with my observations thereon to your Brother John who lay'd the same before him; which Letter with the Act satisfy'd him Ipsofacto as to Convicts, no such name being mention'd therein; therefore he said he would'nt as yet Credit the Duty Levell'd.—It gives me Concern to understand by you, the Naval Officers have follow'd the opinion of the Provincial Lawyers in Levelling the Duty without a Letter of the Act for it, and of which most certainly, will upon Tryal here fall heavy upon them, as within no Intention of the Act, as also will the same upon such Case, for Judgment given by our Provincial Judges with Regard to such Intention; Such Judgement here will be Judged Extrajudical, and of this M^r^ Attorney has given me a hint, therefore it much Behoove's all concern'd to have a Care. 'tis truly hard upon the Province that the Scum and Dregs of the People here sent, should be the Cause of Ruin to Honest men there, I will do what I can to keep quiet M^r^ Stewart But fear it.—This Manifests the danger there is in touching upon Acts of Parliament, and upon which I have observed in my former Letters.

His Lordship is out of Town, as to Col Robert Jenkins Henry, your Appointment of him of the Council of State, you and he may from me rest assured is My Lord's Approbation; My Compliments attend him wishing him Joy thereof. What can be done with the Hen-Peck'd Darnalls? I've received a Letter from the Attorney too ridiculous to answer, I hope they are not included in His Lordship's Instructions sent you dated the 27^th^ of last October.—To M^r^ Attorney the Rent Roll keeper will best suit him, if by Law capable to Hold; upon all Adventures 'tis good Policy to remove him as Attorney General.

I am obliged to you for the return of M^r^ Young's Bill.—Please to acquaint M^r^ Calvert and M^r^ Stewart of their Bills amounting to £50 for M^r^ Wogan I have, and to whom I certainly will deliver the same. I was in hopes by M^r^ Calvert's Letter he would have acknowledged the usual Payment to me from his office.

My Lord is obliged to you for your Reduction of the Receipt of His Revenues to Ten ꝑ Centum.—The remainder of your Epistles by the first opportunity I will answer.—

N. B. Indeed as to the one pound ꝑ head at present Levied by the Provincial Lawyers opinion though not mention'd by the Act of Assembly, It is to be hoped no Harm will happen to the Receipt of it during the Continuance of the Act for five years; It being particular for raising money for His Majesty's Service. As the Contractors for the transporting of Felons have by Act of Parliament or the Government, a proper Allowance paid

here for such their Transportation, giving Bond to Land them in America; Therefore their pretending a Property of Sale of them for the respective Terms of years they are severally Condemned to Transportation, appears to me Unwarrantable; It being Death to the Convict transported, to return before the Term he or she is transported for is out: Therefore if the Contractor sells a Convict, it is to be apprehended he sells such Convict as if an indented Servant, or as a Servant according to the Custom of the Province agreeable to the Act of the Province. This Sort of Evidence would be right to get connected, in case of any Proceedings against the Officers of Maryland relating to this Duty.

When the Circumstance of Convicts falls under the Consideration of the Assembly, I think the best way to Settle that Point would be to charge the Purchaser on his having a Property by Sale of a Person to him for a Term of years: I told M^r^ Attorney that Pensilvania and other parts of His Majestys Territories in America charged a Duty on them, he said not to his Knowledge. The Imposition that you observe is on them in Pensilvania and some of the Islands £5. ꝑ Pole makes me Imagine is the Reason of Their having got Rid of them. The Contractors for transportation of them, their Complaint is most certainly unreasonable, Considering they sell at £8. and £20 each, sure a good Premium for their Passage and as you Remark cannot complain of a Hard Bargain, Exclusive of the money paid here for their Transportation.—

My Lord Desires you'l Note to M^r^ Commissary Tasker his Issuing out of his office Regular Lists of Devises for the Completion of Debt Books.—My Lord is desirous of doing any thing for M^r^ Dulany you shall Recommend to him, and of which he shall not want my friendship for Service to him with His Lordship. I should be glad of a List of the Council.

To The Hon^ble^ Horatio Sharpe Esq^r^ Lieutenant Governor of Maryland.

Liber J. R. & U. S. P. 73

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

New York December 30^th^ 1755

Sir

Being ordered by his Majesty in his Instructions to me as Commander in Chief of the Forces in North America not only to Cultivate the best Harmony and Friendship possible with the several Governors of his Colonies upon this Continent but likewise with the Chiefs of the Indian Tribes and for the better Improvement of his Good Correspondence with the said Indian Tribes to find out some fit & Proper Person agreeable to the

Southern Indians to be Sent to them for this Purpose, and to Endeavour to engage them to Act with his Forces in such operations as I shall think most Expedient, I think I can't better answer his Royal Intention, especially at this time of General Incursions of the Indians into his Western Frontiers, than by recommending the Inclosed Plan to your Honour which if unanimously Executed by the Several Governments concerned, I can't but Conceive Strong hopes may provide in the most effectual manner for their mutual Security against the Hostile Attempts of the Southern Indians upon them & creating a Dependency of those Nations upon his Majesty. Liber J. R. & U. S.

If your Honour can Suggest to me any Amendment of this Plan or other measures for compassing this great Object, I shall very gladly do all the Service I can in promoting them.

I have at the same time likewise Endeavoured to Induce the Indians of the Six Nations to join with us in putting a Stop to the Devastations of the Shawonese, Delaware, Susquehana, and other Southern Nations within his Majestys Western Colonies either by their Good Offices & Authority over them or if those should prove ineffectual by taking up the Hatchet against them.

Inclosed I send your Honour a Copy of the Minutes of a Council of War composed of Governors and Field Officers according to his Majestys Instructions held at this place the 12th and 13th Instant upon the operations of the next Years Campaigne, at which your Honour assisted, I doubt not but you will recommend to the Assembly within your Government in the Strongest Terms to Contribute their just Quota by Men and money towards carrying so Salutary a Plan into Execution; which if done with Vigour and in its proper Season, they must be Sensible will lay the most lasting foundation for the future Safety and Tranquility of their Province and I can't but hope that the Outrages and Devastations lately committed by the Enemy more or less within all his Majestys Western Colonies will Convince the Assembly of Maryland how essential it is for the welfare of his Majestys Subjects within their Province that they should heartily join in the Execution of this Plan which your Honour will be Pleased to Communicate either in part or in the whole as your Honour shall judge Proper and how loudly their Duty to their King and Country calls upon them to do it p. 74

Upon this occasion I cant but hope that the Province under your Honours Government will consider how deeply it is Interested in the event of the next years Campaign

I will not omit returning your Honour my thanks for the Journy you took from Annapolis at so late a Season of the year, and long Attendance at this Place upon his Majestys

Liber J. R. & U. S.

Service: and acknowledging my obligations to you for the great assistance I have had in my Consultations with you upon the most Essential & difficult points of it; which hath put it into my power to promote it further than I am perswaded I should have been able to have done without it

I beg leave to assure you, Sir, that I shall ever esteem it an happiness and Honour to me to maintain the Closest Correspondence with you in the future Course of his Majestys Service, and to give you proofs with what an unfeigned Esteem and regard, I am

S^r^ Your Honours Most Humble & Most Obedient Servant
W Shirley

P. S. Inclosed are the Proportions according to the Plan Settled by the Commissioners at Albany; which tho not perfectly Equal, are the only ones that can be made use of untill more exact can be formed; which cant be done in time for the Present purpose all inequalitys must be Equitably Adjusted, and afterwards Set right upon the first opportunity of doing it

Your Honour must be Sensible that the Success of the next years operations depends upon an early Campaigne

I must desire your Honour to prevail on your Assembly to raise their Inclosed Proportion of 1000 Men towards the Expedition against Crown Point in the first place, before you recomend to them to Raise their proportion towards the Expedition against Du Quesne.

Proportions of the 10,000 Men proposed to be rais'd for the Crown Point Expedition according to the Plan Settled by the Commissioners at Albany.

Maryland	1000
Virginia	1750
Pensilvania	1500
New Jerseys	750
New York	1000
Rhode Island	500
Conecticutt	1250
New Hampshire	500
Massachusetts	1750
	10,000

Original.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London Ianuary 3^d^ 1756

Sir/

The Bearer the Rev^d^ M^r^ Williamson desiring my Address to you on his behalf, I beg the favour of your Acceptance thereof. Your having no Exception to him His Lordship

directs me to Acquaint you, 'tis His desire that you do present him with the first Benefice that does become vacant, after Induction of such other Clergy he has noted to you.—Preferment to this Gentleman will give My Lord peculiar Satisfaction he being a Native of His Province, of sound Doctrine and Principles to our present Happy Establishment Both in Church and State.

Your Letters to Sir Thomas Robinson, and that directed to your Brother John or William are delivered.

I am with the greatest Esteem
Yours most truly
Cæcil[s] Calvert.

To The Hon[ble] Horatio Sharpe Esq[r] Lieut Governor of Maryland.

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] Letter Bk. II. p. 162

Annapolis Ian[y] 4[th] 1756—

Sir

Your Favour of the 22[d] of Nov[r] I received last Week on my Return from N York where my stay was protracted much longer than I expected by the General's not arriving till a month after the Day he had in his Lett[r] appointed. You desire me to inform you what was resolved on at that Congress p. 163 I presume you will by this same Conveyance receive a Copy of the Iournal of our Proceedings, should you not, I will inclose you one as soon as the General shall send me a Copy. The first & principal Thing the Council advised was the securing at all Events & at any Expence the Navigation or Mastery of Ontario Lake, in Consequence of such Advice The General has I apprehend already given Orders for the immediate building of three or more Vessels of greater Force than those which were built last Summer & a Number of Whale-Boats for the Transportation of the Troops that may be employed in that service to Niagara or Cataracui Fort. The greatest Part of the General's & S[r] W[m] Pepperell's Regiments are left under the Command of Lieut[t] Col[o] Mercier to garrison Oswego this winter & 'tis proposed that the two British Regiments (one of w[ch] is at Albany the other at Skenectady) shall join them in the Spring as early as Marching is practicable. With those Regiments I conceive General Shirley will make a Descent on one or both of the French Forts at that Lake while a Body of Provincial Troops (should none other be sent over) attempt p. 164 Crown Point, at least make a Diversion that way to hinder the Enemy's drawing off their Troops from that Quarter to oppose the General on the Lake. It was also proposed & hoped that

Letter Bk. II. these Southern Colonies besides granting a Sum of Money & Men each for supporting the Northern Expedition, would unite & engage to carry on another against Fort Du Quesne at least to advance a Body of Troops westward & by building Forts beyond the Extreme Limits of this Province alarm the Enemy on the Ohio & prevent their sending Succours thence to the Lakes. I could not help intimating my fears that the necessary Supplies of Men & Money for such an Enterprize would not be easily obtained of these Colonies, but as I am persuaded it would contribute much to the Success of the Regular Forces I shall propose it to our Assembly & I am not without hopes that we also shall at length agree to do something for our own Defence & the Common Cause. As all the Indians of the Delaware & Shawanese Nations who have heretofore lived in Pens[a] & been esteemed our Friends have lately taken up the Hatchet ag[st] us it seems high time for us to look out for Allies elsewhere & engage if possible some of the Southern Indians at any Rate to act in Conjunction with such Troops
p. 165 as may Act in these Parts of His Majestys Dominions next Summer. Those of the Six Nations that can be prevailed on to take up Arms & declare in our favour will be found Employment enough by the General on the Lakes, & I beleive you will agree with me on the necessity there is of having such Auxiliaries to attend every army that marches thro the Back Country. I should be glad therefore to be informed how we stand with the Indians of Carolina; what Steps have lately been taken by you or the Carolina Governments to secure them in our Interest, & by what means they are to be prevailed on to take up the Hatchet & join our Troops on the Monongahela the approaching Summer; What Person or People have Influence with the Catawba or Cherokee Nations that may be sent on an Embassy to sollicit their Aid; on what Conditions we may expect their Assistance, how many Warriours will they spare us, & how much should each of these five Provinces contribute to support & Reward such Allies. I promised Gov[r] Morris to address you on this Subject & communicate to him your answer as soon as I shall be favoured therewith—In your Lett[r] dated the 13[th] of Iune you told me the Cloaths that M[r] Carlyle delivered
p. 166 for the Maryland Company would cost 40[s] St[g] a Suit & in the Account which you received with my Lett[r] of the 22[d] of Iune I beleive Credit is given you for £114 for those Cloaths, Be pleased to recur to that account & if you find it otherwise send me a Copy thereof that I may rectify the Error & remit you the Ballance.

Upon hearing that Col[o] Washington excepted ag[st] Capt Dagworthy's acting as Commander in Chief at Wills-Creek by

virtue of His Majesty's Commission I sent him Orders to con- Letter Bk. II.
fine himself to the Command of the Fort alone & not interfere with any Troops in the Barracks or assume any Authority over the Virginians that should be there Posted—

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 179

Annapolis the 5th Iany 1756. transmitted by Capt Montgomerie.

Sr

By a Ship which I am told is just about to sail from Potowmack I embrace this Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of your Letters of the 22d of Augst & 4th of Septr together with His Ldp's Instructions of the same Date. I only want two Constable's Returns of the Number of People in their Districts to compleat a List of the Number of our Inhabitants, as soon as they are received such an exact List shall be made out for his Ldp & sent in my first Letr Colo Tasker accepts the Office on the Conditions you offer, viz the payment of £200 annually to your Order, & acts by my Appointment till you shall please to send him a Deputation. As Mr Darnal peremptorily refuses to resign the Naval Office of Potuxent & become Keeper of either Rent Roll I cannot execute that part of His Ldp's Instructions as I intended to do as soon as Mr Thomas & Colo Lloyd come to Annapolis which I expect in a few Days, I shall give Colo Lloyd such a Hint as you desire & make Mr Thos an Offer to be Joint Commissary with Mr Tasker which I hope he will accept, otherwise I shall be much at a loss, there being no Gentn else in the Council at all acquainted with the Law except Mr Wm Goldsborough & Colo Henry who reside on the Eastern Shore & would not I apprehend be induced by such an Office to quit their Plantations. p. 180
Twas the want of such Gentn in his Ldp's Council as I have heretofore intimated to you that made me recommend three of the Profession in my former Letters beside those whom His Ldp approved of. I am sorry the Capt. who charged himself with the Box you speak of acted so contrary to Order by delivering it at a distant Post-Office when he was himself bound directly for London. The Lead was inclosed to sink the Box in case of the Vessel's falling into the hands of the Enemy which at that time we should not have been surprized to hear & I conceived such a Precaution necessary on Acct of the Plan of Operations which I by that Opportunity sent his Ldp, but you may be assured no such Accident shall happen for the future. You say his Ldp would have that part of his Province which lies beyond Wills-Creek divided from Frederick Cty &

Letter Bk. I. called Westmorland, at present No People inhabit so far back nor will I am afraid for some Years; but whenever there may be enough setled there to support the Expence of Courts I shall take Care to execute his Ldp's Orders. The Instruction that His Ldp orders to be recorded in the Land Office I have sent to the Iudges & given Directions for its being made publick. M^r^ Young has enjoyed the Profitts of the Surveyorship & Naval Office of Pocomoke ever since his Marriage of which I see His Ldp is pleased to approve. I had prorogued the Assembly to the 20^th^ of next Month before I was favoured with your Lett^rs^ by that time we hope to hear what Measures are
p. 181 taking at home, & it will be as soon as any thing can be done in Consequence of the Assembly's granting Supplies, in the mean time I support Capt Dagworthy's Company at Fort Cumberland, & Lieu^t^ Stodderts party at Tonalloway in Fred^k^ Cty out of the Money that was subscribed by the Gent^n^ for that purpose. These Parties I beleive have been in great measure the Protection of our People who have escaped uninjured while Numbers of People in Pens^a^ have been cut off within Ten Miles of our Forts. The Gov^r^ of that Province has at last accepted a Bill for £55.000. to be struck in Paper & sunck in four years, the Assembly left out that part of the former Bill which taxed the Proprietaries Estate but appropriated the £5000. that the Proprietaries contribute for the Defence of the Province in the same manner as they have done the Money granted by the Bill. The Assembly it is said would have continued obstinate if a Body of near 400 People had not come in from the Back Country & insisted on their sending up such a Bill as the Gov^r^ was impowered to pass. The Bodies of three People that had been scalped were brought down to Phil^a^ by the distant Inhabitants & exposed in the Streets which it is probable would have excited unusual Commotions among the People if the Supply Bill had not been before passed & the Gov^r^ & Assembly been out of the City. There has not been any Alterations in Affairs to the Northward since I writ last;
p. 182 we hope some more Regiments will be sent from Europe before the next Campaign otherwise.I am afraid General Shirley will find sufficient Employment for the four that are already here to secure the Navigation of Ontario Lake, upon which we have advised him to build immediately three or more larger Vessels than those two that he built last Summer, upon an Information laid before Us that the French have at this time three Vessells of considerable Force on the Stocks in Cataracui Harbour. Gov^r^ Dinwiddie tells me that finding his Assembly too about to enter into Cabals at their last Meeting he dissolved them & issued Writs for a New Election, which being made he will convene the Assembly again & sollicit farther Supplies

for carrying on another Expedition agst Fort Du Quesne which Letter Bk. I.
was advised to be done at the late Congress at N York
I am afraid Crown Point is not accessible for any Body of Provincial Troops, however the General intends to sollicit all the Colonies to engage together & make another Attempt to reduce that place while he is securing Ontario Lake & making a Descent on Cataracui & Niagara Forts.—

[Sharpe to Robinson.]

Letter Bk. II.
p. 166

Ian^{y} 6th 1756—

R^{t} Honble

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of y^{r} Lett^{rs} dated the 26th July & 28th of Augst The Contents of the first have agreeable to your Order been communicated to the People of this Province, & in compliance with Gen^{l} Shirley's Desire I was assisting at a Council of War at N York when I rec^{d} the other. how Affairs are situated in the Northern Parts of His Majesty's Dominions on this Continent the Gen^{l} himself has I doubt not informed you; in this Province nothing extraordinary has happened, neither have Indian Parties made p. 167
such Incursions into or destroyed the Inhabitants of this as they have those of the two neighbouring Provinces during the Winter. Since the Delaware & Shawnese Indians who resided some time in Pens^{a} have declared in favour of the French & taken up Arms agst Us it has been impossible to get any Intelligence of the Motions or Proceedings of the French on the Ohio, the Last Account thence was brought by an Indian some time ago who reported that the Garrison at that time at Fort Du Quesne consisted of about 1000 Men, & that many Indians & some Regular Troops who were at the Action of the Monongahela had been a few Days after sent off to the Northward

I remain with the greatest Respect

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

Annapolis Ianuary the 24th 1756.

Sir

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lett^{r} dated the 30th Dec^{r} together with a Copy of the minutes of the Council's Proceedings at New York & your Scheme for confirming the Southern Indians in our Interest & engaging them to act in Conjunction with such Troops as shall be employed next Summer in this part of the Continent agst his

Letter Bk. II. p. 168 Majesty's Enemies. I had before writ to Gov[r] Dinwiddie on this Subject & a few Days since had the Satisfaction to learn from him that the Cherokees seem well disposed towards us & that 130 of them have already taken up the Hatchet ag[st] the French & are gone with three or four Companies of the Virginia Rangers to attack one of the Shawnese Towns. Gov[r] Dinwiddie also tells me that two Gent[n] of his Council have been to the Catawba as well as the Cherokee Nation with a considerable Present & Instructions to enter into a formal Treaty of Peace with them in behalf of His Majesty & all these Colonies & to endeavour to prevail with them to promise particularly what Number of Warriours they will send to join the English Troops in the Spring; they have given their word to furnish one Thousand but Gov[r] Dinwiddie does not inform me on what Conditions they may be expected. I shall acquaint the Gent[n] of our Assembly when they meet with the Steps the Governt[t] of Virg[a] has taken & what a fair prospect we have of securing the Friendship of those People & making them of vast Service to us if they will on their part contribute towards
p. 169 carrying the Plan that you have favoured us with into Execution. Your Excellency may be likewise assured that nothing shall be wanting on my Part to procure you the Supplies you ask of this Province but as I have already intimated to you I am afraid our People will not be persuaded to send any men hence to the Northward, whatever they may be to furnish their Quota towards carrying on another Expedition ag[st] Fort Du Quesne. I shall send your Excellency early Advice of the Result of our Assembly's Meeting & at the same time let you know what may in my Opinion be effected with such Forces as can be raised in these Colonies & with the Southern Indians next Summer. Your Excellency would oblige me by signifying what Orders are given for the payment of the Waggoners &c that attended General Braddock from Wills Creek, as the People are very uneasy lest they should be disappointed in their Expectations & unless they are first satisfied for their last Year's Service will be exceedingly averse to engaging again. If you should have an Opportunity & be inclined to give Capt Dagworthy a Comm[n] in your own or any other Regiment you will be pleased to acquaint me therewith & let me know if it
p. 170 be agreeable to you that he should recruit Men in these Parts for such Regiment, otherwise as I expect our Assembly will make provision for keeping it up he will remain at Fort Cumberland & continue to command the Company that he has already raised. I desire you will beleive that I am too anxious to merit the Continuance of your Correspondence & the favourable Opinion you have been pleased to entertain of me ever to neglect an Opportunity of demonstrating that I am with the greatest Respect & Esteem Your Excellency's &c

[Sharpe to Morris.] Letter Bk. II.

Ian^{y} 24th

S^{r}

I return you thanks for forwarding to me by Express the Packett that you was kind enough to bring from Gen^{l} Shirley to Phil^{a} & for the Civilities I received at your hands during my Stay in that City, Since my Return hither I have received a Lett^{r} from Gov^{r} Dinwiddie advising me that 130 of the Cherokees have been prevailed on to take up the Hatchet agst the French & that in conjunction with some Companies of the Virginia Rangers they are gone to attack one of the Shawnese Towns. he also informs me that two Gent^{n} of his Council who have been with a considerable present to the Catawba & p. 171
Cherokee Nations have made a League with them both & engaged them to send 1000 Warriours in the Spring to act in Conjunction with the Forces that may be employed in this part of the Continent agst his Majesty's Enemies. I should be glad to hear what has been the Event of your Interview with the Indians you had appointed to meet, & also what measures have been taken for the Protection of your Frontiers, what places the Commissioners have ordered Forts to be built what Number of Men they propose to garrison them with & whether they will furnish & support any Troops for carrying on another Expedition to the Westward as well as their Quota for the Expedition to Crown Point. Our Assembly meets the 20th of next month when I shall lay before them the Plan of Opperations that was concerted at N York & I flatter myself they will contribute something towards carrying it into Execution. At the same time I shall recommend to them to build some Forts at proper places on our Frontiers whence Parties from the Garrisons may be detatched occasionally to patroll between those that shall be raised on the Frontiers of your Province & such as shall be built in Virginia on Potowmack River—

[Sharpe to Hardy.] p. 172

Annapolis Ian^{y} the 24th 1756—

S^{r}

Since my Return from N York I have had the Satisfaction to receive a Lett^{r} from Gov^{r} Dinwiddie advising me that he has prevailed with 130 of the Cherokees to take up the Hatchet agst the French & that they are gone with some Companies from Virg^{a} to attack one of the Shawanese Towns. At a Treaty lately held with the Catawba Nation by two of the Council of Virg^{a} They expressed themselves exceedingly well disposed towards the English & together with the Cherokees have engaged to send 1000 Warriours in the Spring to

Letter Bk. II. act in Conjunction with any Troops that may be employed in this part of the Continent next Summer agst his Majesty's Enemies. This I look on as a considerable Acquisition & hope the Alliance of these people will make our Affairs put on a different face next Summer if these Southern Colonies are not wanting to themselves & if some Succours are timely sent us from home I embrace this Opportunity of making my Acknowledgments for the Civilities I rec^{d} at your hands during my Stay at N York, & to desire my Comp^{ts} to M^{r} Barons & his Lady at the same time that I assure your Excellency that I am &c.

Original. [Morris to Sharpe.]

Philid^{a} Ian^{ry} 29th 1756.

Sir.

I last night returnd from Visiting the frontiers of this Province in which I have been employd above a month and Expect in about ten days a chain of forts will be compleated from Delaware to the New Road made towards the Alleghany Hills which will be Garrisond by about eight Hundred men. On the West side of Susquahana the forts are already erected one at a River Calld Matchitango about twelve miles from the Sasquahana which I have calld Pomfret castle another near Juniata where Kishignokilis falls into it, calld fort Granville a third at Auchwick call'd fort Shirley, and a fourth at the Sugar Cabins upon the New Road Calld fort Lytellton at each of these I have placed a Garrison of Seventy five men & orderd them to range the Woods each way. Fort Lytellton I am told is within about sixteen mile of a fort you have erected and I have directed the Party there to range towards that fort, to give them notice of the Approach of any enemy, and to afford them all the Assistance in their power.

A Messenger employd upon some private business to your town gives me an opportunity of Writing you, but allows only time to mention an unhappy affair that happend at Halifax between the Col^{s} Monckton and Winslow who it seems had some dispute while they were upon Service together but suppressd their resentment till they came to Halifax when meeting either by Accident or appointment they engaged and are both wounded in such a manner as to leave little hopes of the recovery of either of them, this Acc^{t} was sent to Gen^{l} Shirley by Express and is therefore to be depended on. I last night receivd the Kings speech in a New York paper which I send you inclosd by which & by M^{r} Foxes being made Secretary of State it seems to me a War with france is near at hand

I am Sir Your most obed^{t}
Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

The Letter herewith, I intended by a Messenger that went away yesterday, without giving me the notice he promised, and I now send it by the return of the Express, who brought me your favour of the 24th Instant.

I have mentioned in that letter, the Chain of Forts and Block houses, from Deleware towards Potomack along the Kitectiny hills, those to the West of Susquehannah, are about 20 miles assunder, those between Susquehannah and Deleware, about ten, the Garrisons in the former, are seventy five men each, in the Latter from Fifty to Twenty, according to their scituation and importance. I also propose to build a Fort at Shamokin, at the Forks of Susquehana, as soon as the season will admit a passage up that River, for the mountains north of the Kitectiny, are quite impassable for Carriages, This is what our Freindly Indians requested of me, at the late interview, and say they will collect themselves together, under the protection of such a Fort, and readily assist us in the defence of our Frontier, or in any attempts that We shall make upon the French incroachments. The building these Forts and Block houses, paying, Arming and Victualing their several Garrisons, relieving the distress'd Inhabitants that are drove from their plantations, and other Charges, swallow up the greatest part, if not the whole of the sixty Thousand pounds granted by the Assembly.

The operations of the next summer, will therefore require a new Grant, and I am apt to think my Assembly, would contribute Largely towards an Enterprise to the Westward, if they could be excused, bearing a part in the Northern Expedition, but a few days will shew what their Resolutions are, as I have summon'd them to meet the day after to morrow—

It gives me great pleasure to hear of Governor Dinwiddies success with the Chirokees, and Catawba's, a thousand of their Warriours will give our Western affairs another face, if they are properly employed, especially if those already gone against the Shawanese Town, should prove Victorious, which I heartily wish they may.

The Indians that met me, gave me very warm assurances of their Attachment to the English, and offer'd to serve us in any Capacity, either as Warriors, or as Messengers, their number indeed was small, the greatest part of those in our Interest, having returnd to the Country of the Six Nations, that they might be out of danger, either from the French, their Indians, or from us, & from whence they have sent me a Message, assuring me of their Friendship, and giving the Reason of their Retreat.

Having been inform'd, that the Enemy Indians had taken up

their head Quarters, at a place called Nescopeeken, upon the east branch of Susquehanna, I have sent two trusty Indians thither, to bring me intelligence of their numbers, and whether there be any French among them, and how many, and when we are by these Indians informed of their Scituation, it will be no difficult matter to Attack, and dislodge them, and I imagine the Commissioners, will come into measures for that purpose—

I was in such a hurry when I came from New York, and obliged to go immediatly to the Frontiers, that I had not time to Write, and Congratulate you, on your safe return, where I hope you have had perfect health, I find that General Shirley, and Coll. Iohnson, parted upon tolerable Terms, the latter has been sometime gone to a meeting of the six Nations, where, I hope he will have the Address, and Influence, to induce them to Ioin more unanimously in our cause, than they have hitherto done, for considering the Principal seat of the next years operations their assistance, must be a matter, of very great Importance.

I am Sir
Your Most Faithfull
and obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris

February 1st 1756.

Letter Bk. II. p. 173

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

Feb^{y} 2^{d} 1756.

Sir

Within three or four Days I have received several Lett^{rs} from the Magistrates in different Parts of this Province informing me that Those of His Majestys Officers who have been ordered hither to recruit have lately received your positive Instructions to enlist without Exception or Distinction all Apprentices & Servants that they can persuade to enter into the Service, that the Inhabitants having a great part of their Property vested in Servants unanimously oppose the Execution of such Instructions, that on such Opposition Violences have been committed & that unless their Cause of Complaint be speedily removed an Insurrection of the People is likely to ensue. The Magistrates as well as myself have & shall endeavour to prevent Mischief but as the Officers are determined to persevere unless they are countermanded I think it my Duty to acquaint your Excellency with this Affair & to intimate to you my Fears & that I shall find myself under a necessity, (if a Stop be not put to such Proceedings) of making a Representation home on this Subject. I cannot promise that the People will be much longer restrained from expressing their Resentment by Actions: I think it my Duty to make this Representation to y^{r} Excel-

lency & hope you will not be averse to countermanding such Orders, otherwise I shall find myself under a necessity of exerting the Power with which I am invested to preserve the peace of the Province— Letter Bk. II.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that I have received a letter from Scanoyady dated 4th January at Onondago an Indian Town situate on the head Branches of the Sasquehannah in which he informs me that he & Montour were got safe there, tho not without abundance of Danger. That the Delawares were obstinately bent on the distruction of the English & say they will pay no regard to the Interposition of the six Nations tho they should send to them their greatest Sachems. He advices me to put the Province into a Posture of Defence but not to Act offensively till I should hear further from him & be made acquainted with the Determination of the six nations, who he hears were convend by Collⁱ Johnson & that he propos'd to be at the General Convention & there represent the conduct of the Delawares & Shawonese; & he hopes with success, as he heard that the six Nations disapproved of their Hostilities & would resent it. By this Journy he and Mr Montour have demonstrated that they are our true friends and as such will deserve our best encouragements. Mr Clause, a young man who has for sometime past liv'd in the upper Mohock Castle, and is said to understand the Indian Language, attends the Treaty (which was appointed to be on the 22d of Ianuary & I hope is now holding at Collⁱ Johnsons) on the part of Pennsylvania & will hasten to this City as soon as it shall be ended, and as soon as I know the result I will impart it to you.

Two of the Neutrals, one imported at New York and the other here, have obtaind my Leave to go to Annapolis in quest of their Families who they think are in some of the Ships which have arrivd in your Province. If they light of them, or any other of the wives & children belonging to those imported here, I desire the favour of you to suffer as many to come to their Friends here as these two will undertake to conduct and defray the charges of their Journy. I do not mean to put you or my self to any Expence for their removal, But if Ioseph Munier & Simon Leblanc who are recommended to me as good and worthy People and one of whom had been in the service of his Majesty will bring any here at their own Expence I desire they may be indulgd to do it. I am Sir

Your most faithfull
and most obedt
Humble Servt
Robt H. Morris

Philada 2d
Febry 1756

Original.

[Sir Charles Hardy to Sharpe.]

Fort George New York the 9th Feby 1756

Sir

I am favoured with yours of the 24th of last month and am much obliged to you for the Intelligence from Virginia; the great and good Consequences that must arise to his Majesty's Service from a Junction of such a number of Warriors from the Catawba & Cherokee Nations, are to obvious to leave a doubt that the Southern Colonies will not exert themselves, and take the Advantage of so favourable a disposition among those Indians, they will by it not only secure to themselves success in any enterprize undertaken in Conjunction with them, but fix them in a firm alliance to the Brittish Interest.

Inclosed is a Copy of Indian Intelligence sent me by Colo Iohnson, it appears to me this French Officer, is rather endeavouring to frighten the Indians, for I can hardly think he can be unacquainted with the Strength of the Garison at Oswego, and that admitted, it may not be so easy to surprize and steal that Fort, at a season of the Year that must make the attempt very difficult, and in the end miscarry if our Garison there is not very negligent indeed; Colo Iohnson writes me that he has received an Answer to a Message he sent the Delawares, requireing them to desist from all Hostilities against the English, and that they have promised no more mischeif shall be done, but that they will wait the result of his meeting with the Six Nations which he informs me he expects will be very numerous, and hopes by it to stop the Ravages Committed by the Indians, on the back Settlements in Pensilvania.

The first Packet arrived from England the 3d Instant the Captain is instructed to stay here no longer than twenty days and the Post Masters General, have desired by their Letter, that I will not delay her Sailing to any longer time but in cases of necessity, The time appears to me to be to short, for the distant Governments to answer their Letters by her return; I do therefore propose to recommend a longer time to the Post Office.

I am impatiently waiting the return of my Express from Boston, that carried the Resolutions of my Assembly to General Shirley and the Eastern Governments.

I shall also hope to hear your Assembly will take their Share in the Services of this Year, recommended by the Council of Warr held in this City.

Mr Barons and my Sister join with me in their Sincere Regards. I beg my Compliments to the Gentlemen that came with you, and am— I am Sir.

Your most Obedient
and Humble Servant
Chas Hardy

The Honble Govr Sharp.

[Sharpe to Morris.] Letter Bk. II. p. 174

Feb^{y} 14th 1756—

S^{r}

Your Lett^{r} of the 1st & 2^{d} Inst as well as one dated the 29th Ian^{y} I am favoured with & am much obliged to you for acquainting me with the Steps you have taken to prevent any future Incursions of the Indians & for your promise that I shall not long remain ignorant of the Result of the Treaty that was about to be held at Col^{o} Iohnson's. Your Request in favour of Munier & Le blanc shall be complied with whenever they desire to return to Phil^{a} the Wife & Family of the first are here, the other is gone to look for his in a distant part of the Province. Our Assembly meets the 20th I am afraid they will not be much inclined to comply with General Shirley's Requisition by sending Troops to act in Conjunction with those of the Eastern Gov^{ts} for by what I can find they think the Gen^{l} has taken Men enough hence already, & will not be reconciled to the Officers enlisting Servants in pursuance of their Recruiting Instructions. I hope the Regiments are nearly compleated or that the Gen^{l} will very shortly countermand such Orders, otherwise I don't know to what Lengths the People's Resentment might carry them. We are told that the Packett from Falmouth is arrived at N York, I should be glad to learn what is done, or in Agitation at home If any Lett^{rs} that came p. 175 by her directed for me lye in your Post Office I should be extremely obliged to you for getting and sending them hither by Express, else as the Post from Phil^{a} to Annapolis is so very irregular I may not get them this Month. In what Temper does your Assembly meet, or have they granted any farther Supplies? if they set us a laudable Example be kind enough to intimate as much to S^{r} &c

[Col. Hooper to Sharpe.] Copy.

25th feb^{r} 1756.

May it please Y^{r} Excell^{y}

I received y^{r} Excellency's Lett^{r} wth an Extract of the Proceedings of the Honb^{l} Will^{m} Johnson Esq^{r} with the confederate Nations of Indians at the publick Meeting at Mount Johnson in June & July last w^{ch} I have communicated to the several Tribes of Indians belonging to our County in general & particularly to Iemikakonick & lame Sam, & received this answer from one & all to wit that they were a very poor people & small in Number not exceeding 17 Men at the most & some of them old & Decrepid & not able to travel; then they gave the String inclosed desiring it might be delivered to the

Indians of the Six Nations. I assure your Excellency my own Conduct w^th^ regard to our Indians has always been such that I never hindered them from travelling to any part of the Continent; the truth of which they have all done me the justice to acknowledge nor did I ever hear of their being sent for by the Six Nations until the Receipt of Y^r^ Excellency's Lett^r^

I am
May it please y^r^ Excell^cy^
Y^r^ most dutifull & most obed^t^ humb. serv^t^
Henry Hooper.

Letter Bk. II. p. 175

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

3^d^ of March 1756

S^r^

Our Lower House of Assembly have I find after sitting Eleven Days passed a Vote for granting £40000 for his Majestys Service & the better Defence of our Frontiers They yesterday desired me to communicate to them any Intelligence I may have received concerning the Southern Indians, what Assistance we might reasonably expect from the Cherokee & Catawba Nations & how this Province may best contribute jointly with the neighbouring Govern^ts^ to secure the Friendship & Alliance of these People. I should be obliged to you for writing to me your Sentiments on that Subject as well as for enabling me to send a particular Answer to the first part of the inclosed Address. I do not know who has given them the Intimation they speak of but as we shall be much in want of Arms should they raise any considerable Number of Men I
p. 176 hope they have not been misinformed & shall be glad to hear that you have wherewith to supply us. I do not learn that the Pensilvanians have granted any farther Supplies; but S^r^ Cha^s^ Hardy tells me the Assembly of N York have voted 1000 Men for the Service of the ensuing Summer he also informs me that the Indians from Onondaga have sent notice that the French intended & were preparing to attack Oswego this winter; the Indians themselves seem to be much alarmed, but I hope that their Fears are groundless, or that if the French were really in motion on the Lakes General Shirley has taken such measures as must render their Enterprize abortive—

Original.

[Morris to Sharpe.]

Philadelphia 4 March 1756.

Sir

I have your Favour of the 14^th^ Feb^ry^ I have not heard from Col^l^ Johnson, but expect an Account of the Indian

Treaty every day having an Interpreter there who has my orders to proceed here & bring with him the Minutes of what passes as soon as the Treaty is finish'd and I shall transmit them to you as soon as they come to hand.

I thank you for your favour to Munier Le Blanc which I was induced to ask from Compassion to him & his Family.

I hope your Assembly will not suffer any thing done by the Officers in enlisting Servants to prejudice the Kings Service in such important Points as you have to lay before them.

The London Packet is arrivd and sailed last Tuesday Sevennight for England. You have no Letters lying in the Post Office.

My Assembly have been sitting since the 3^{d} Febry but I have not as yet heard from them on any of the matters I recommended to them, nor do I know as what disposition they are but I judge from their silence that it is not very favourable as to the supplies requested of them.

This waits on you by Express with Letters from Gen^{l} Shirley by which you will be informd of what is doing to the Eastward where a noble warlike spirit reigns but when it will spread into these Western Regions God only knows.

I am with great truth Sir

Your Most obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}

Rob^{t} H: Morris.

[Shirley to Sharpe.] Original.

Boston March 5th 1756.

Sir

Inclosed is the Extract of a Letter which I have lately received by Colonel Washington from Gov^{r} Dinwiddie calling upon me to determine the right of Command between him and Cap^{t} Dagworthy.

You was pleased to assure me at New York that you would send such Orders to Cap^{t} Dagworthy as would put an end to this dispute and afterwards that you had actually done it.

I should be extremely unwilling to do any thing that might appear in the least disagreeable to any Gentleman, who has had the Honour of bearing his Majesty's Commission, and should have been glad that no such Dispute had come before me; But as the Command I am honoured with from his Majesty obliges me upon all occasions to act the best for His Service, I must desire that Cap^{t} Dagworthy may be removed from Fort Cumberland; or acquainted, that if he remains there, he must put himself under the Command of Colonel Washington.

I have taken some time to consider this point, and cannot think, that Cap^{t} Dagworthy, who now acts under a Provincial Commission, has any Right to the Command as there are no Regular Troops join'd with those Troops now at Fort Cumberland, which would be the only Circumstance, that could occasion a Dispute concerning the Right of Provincial Field officers to Command, in preferrence to Captains bearing Commissions from his Majesty.

I should have sent my orders to Cap^{t} Dagworthy thro' my Aid de Camp, but as you have proposed to me to give him such as would effectually remove the occasion of the dispute, I cant but hope you will still do it; and I think besides, as he now acts under a Provincial Commission; it will be more regular that they should be transmitted to him from you.

With respect to the Command of Fort Cumberland, I am informed by Cap^{t} Morris my Aid de Camp that the late General Braddock had private Instructions from His R H the Duke to put it in a Condition to contain a Garrison of 200 Men and that he appointed Col. Inne's Gov^{r} of it which was given out in orders, if that be so, the matter must remain on the same foot he put it upon.

I am very sorry to find that the Recruiting officers entertaining Indented Servants, is likely to produce an Insurrection in your Government; as the officers have assured me that it will not be in their power to execute his Majesty's orders for augmenting their Regiments to 1000 each in time for his Service, without my taking of the Restraint, I had lay'd them under in that respect, I cant revoke my late Orders for taking it off without being Guilty of a Breach of my Duty to his Majesty; and I cant but hope that your Honour and the Magistrates will have authority enough within your Government to prevent the bad Effects, you seem in your Letter to be apprehensive of.

I must beg leave to referr you to the inclosed Copy of my Letter to Gov^{r} Morris for my Sentiments at large upon this point.

I am with great Regard
Sir, Your Honour's most obedient
Humble Servant
W Shirley

Extract of a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie
to General Shirley dated Ianuary 23^{d} 1756.

Governor Sharpe has not answer'd your Excellency's Intentions in removing the Dispute between Col: Washington & Cap^{t} Dagworthy; he has order'd him to keep the Command of the Fort, w^{ch} he does in an absolute manner; we have

purchas'd and laid in Provisions for 1000 Men for one Year; as the Fort was the most safe Place they were deposited there, & a Commissary appointed at the Charge of this Country, he will not allow him to discharge his Duty but refuses any of the Provisions to be touch'd but by his Order; and tho' the Provisions are supply'd by this Country, he insists on a Right to supply his own Men from our Magazine, tho' Maryland pays no part of the Charge, he otherways acts in an Arbitary manner, & insists on his Rank superior to any of our Officers, & he has not above thirty men, when Col: Washington has upwards of 500.

This Fort was built by Virtue of his Majesty's Instructions to me, & by my orders to Col: Iames Innes then in the pay of this Colony, & with a great Charge to this Country; it's true it happens to be in Maryland, but I presume his Majesty has a Right to build a Fort where he pleases in any of his Colonies; & the Guns mounted are Guns sent by his Majesty for the Service of Virginia; it cannot reasonably be suggested that his Majesty intended them for the Proprietor of Maryland.

General Braddock gave a Commission to Col: Innes to be Governor of the Fort; his private Affairs calling him to his Estate in North Carolina, he appointed Lieut: Col: Stephens to command in his Absence: Cap^{t} Dagworthy with his pretended Rank wrested the Command from him without any Rule but his Commission of Captain in the Canada Expedition, tho' not on the half pay list, but receiv'd a Sum of Money in lieu; by his accepting that Money I am of Opinion he revok'd the Commission.

This Affair makes such noise here that I thought it necessary to send Col. Washington to you, who can be more particular: If I was to call the Assembly now, I know this Affair has rais'd the Rancour of the People so much that they would go into Extremes of Resentment & do no Business for the Service: I am sorry I have occasion to be so long on this Affair, but as it makes much Noise here, & without you interpose your Authority I do not know what will be the Consequence; as formerly, I desire the Favour of a Brevet Commission to Col: Washington & to the other Field Officers, & that you would please to reinstate Col. Stephens to the Command of the Fort 'till Governor Innes returns: As Commander in Chief of the Forces this is in your power only, & without some Regulation in regard to this unhappy Dispute, I shall not be able to do any thing with our Assembly.

I forgot to mention, that Fort Cumberland being a King's Fort, I cannot conceive that the Proprietor's Governor can have any Right to appoint a Governor, & more so as it has been built by this Government; the Right is in you, and I doubt not you will assume it in order to restore Peace.

Letter Bk. II. p. 176

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

March the 7th 1756

Sr

The Bearer comes Express with Lettrs from Genl Shirley whence I presume you will learn that he has sent me a Commission & Orders to take the Command of 4000 Men which he expects will be raised in these Southern Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward over & above a Body of 3284 which are to be sent hence to the Northward to act in Conjunction with the Troops that he will himself command on the western Lakes. I am afraid that His Excellency is much too sanguine in his hopes & Expectations from these Colonies; by what I can find none of them have yet come to a Resolution to furnish their respective quotas for the Expeditions proposed to be carried on to the Northward but as I am ordered to take
p. 177 the Command of such Forces as may be raised for an Expedition to the Westward I shall be glad to know how many men your Governt will engage to furnish for that Service; when they will be able to rendezvous at Fort Cumberland & agst what time a sufficient quantity of Provisions will be laid in there for their Subsistance during the Campaign, if you can engage a sufficient Number of Waggons & Horses to attend such Troops, whether you have a sufficient Magazine of Arms & Ammunition & a Train of Artillery proper for such an Expedition or what you can furnish towards a Train for such Service. I must beg you also to let me know whether you have received any late Advice from Govs Dobbs or Glen of the Intentions of the Carolina Governts to join with these Colonies in attempting the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne & if you have not been already well informed with respect to those particulars that you will write to Governors Glen & Dobbs & desire to know what assistance we may certainly expect from them respectively, & what Number of Warriours the Cherokee & Catawba Nations will engage to send us. I shall immediately acquaint the General with the Difficulties that I am afraid we shall labour under in putting his Plan in Execution unless he can venture to give me Money or Credit, but I cannot be so explicet & particular as I could wish till I receive your answer which therefore I shall impatiently desire & hope to receive as soon as possible.

A Lettr was at the same time writ to Govr Morris to know how many men that Govt would engage to furnish for this Expedition to the westward—

[Sharpe to Shirley.] Letter Bk. II.

Annapolis. the 7th of March 1756.

Sr

I am just favoured with your Lettr dated the 23d of Feby & am much obliged to you for your kind Intention in honouring me with a Commission to command wt Forces shall be raised in these Southern Colonies for an Expedition to the westward tho' I am very apprehensive that I shall not find myself enabled by these Colonies to execute your Commission as you may expect or as I could wish. The warlike Spirit that has spread itself thro the Eastern Colonies has not (I am sorry to say it) yet reached these Regions. hitherto these Provinces appear quite inactive & so far from being disposed to comply with your Requisition by sending Troops hence to act in Conjunction with his Majesty's Regiments under your immediate Command that they have not even made provision for effectually securing their own Frontiers. I have writ to Govr Dinwiddie to know how many Troops that Dominion will engage to furnish for the Service on which your Excellency is pleased to order me & also what Assistance we may certainly expect from the Carolinas. The Assembly of Pensa has I hear been sitting a month & is not yet come to any Resolutions to grant Supplies of Men or Money towards carrying any Part of the Plan that you submitted to us at N York into Execution which makes me fear they will not so readily contribute their quota either as your Excellency seems to hope. The Assembly of this Province too has been now met a fortnight but have not yet come to any Determination with respect to the several matters that agreeably to your Lettr I recommended to their Consideration. A Vote has indeed passed for granting £40000 this or Pensa Currcy but from Experience I find that with us there is a wide Difference between voting a Sum of Money & granting or raising it; but suppose for once the several Branches of this Legislature should be unanimous & agree with regard to the mode of raising money £40.000 will go but a little way towards raising subsisting & transporting the number of Men that is deemed the Quota of this Colony. for a larger Sum I am persuaded I shall apply in vain but your Excellency may be assured that I will leave nothing untried to p. 179 bring about what each of us so earnestly desire & have so much at heart. I must observe to your Excellency that we are but very badly provided either with Arms or Ammunition in these Provinces & that all together we shall be unable to compose a tolerable Train of Artillery which I doubt not your Excellency will think absolutely necessary for us to be provided with. As your Excellency knows very considerable contingent Expences

Letter Bk. II. will unavoidably attend the Execution of any part of your Excellency's plan for the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne for which I am sensible the Colonies will never provide (people entirely unacquainted with Military Affairs being apt to think that every thing beyond cloathing paying & victualing the Troops is Excess) I hope I shall be excused for desiring some other Cash that what the Assemblies may grant or a Lett[r] of Credit for as much as you shall judge requisite for defraying such contingent Charges as the Colonies that shall put Troops under my Command will not take upon themselves. As I must also request the favour of your Excellency to appoint some Ingineer on this Service I should be glad M[r] Gordon were ordered to the Southward as he is a Gent[n] with whom I have heretofore had some acquaintance & is is now at Phil[a] When I receive a Lett[r] from Gov[r] Dinwiddie to whom I have sent an Express with your Packett or as soon as our Assembly come to any Resolution to be depended on I will not fail to send your Excell[cy] speedy Intelligence & I shall be much obliged to you for the favour of an answer as soon as possible or as shall be convenient, in the mean time

I am &c—

[Sharpe to Fox.]

8[th] of March 1756—

Right Honble—

I embrace this first Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of a Lett[r] you was pleased to honour me with in Nov[r] & to express the pleasure I receive from being directed to address
p. 180 my Lett[rs] to you as one of His Majestys principal Secretaries of State as also to assure you that with the greatest punctuality I will acquaint you with any important Occurrence that may happen in this Part of His Majesty's Dominions. I will always endeavour to shew my Duty to His Majesty by complying most readily with whatever Instructions you may at any time be pleased to send me & you will I hope do me the Justice to beleive that it shall be my constant Study to approve myself

R[t] Hon[ble]

[Sharpe to Lords of Trade.]

Copy of a Lett[r] to the L[ds] of Trade that was writ the 8[th] Feb[y] not sent till now.

R[t] Hon[ble]

In Obedience to y[r] Ldp's Commands signified to me in a Lett[r] dated the 19[th] of Sept[r] which I lately rec[d] I am to acquaint

your Ldps that there are in & belonging to this Province 19 Carriage Guns all Iron but very good 4 of them are 6 pounders & 15 four pounders the last not mounted. In the Magazine is 16[lb] weight of 6[lb] shot & 24 half Barrels of Powder; of musquet Ball & Bar Lead we have a considerable quantity & there were last Spring about 500 stand of small Arms belonging to the Publick most of which are in the hands of the men that have been raised for the protection of the Frontiers & some were lost at the Action of the Monongahela. The Militia of this Colony are near 16500, One third of whom at least are entirely destitute of Arms & many of the Guns that are the property of the Rest are very bad & scarcely fit for use. For want of a proper Militia Law (which the assembly has been frequently in vain sollicited to make) the people are undisciplined as well as badly armed & cannot be compelled to serve in Defence of the Country. The white Inhabitants in Maryland are 107.963, the Black 46225. I apprehend about 26000 of the former are able to bear Arms, but all Civil Officers & persons of particular Trades or Callings being exempted by Law, convicted servants incapacitated & Roman Catholicks excluded or excused by Custom the Militia does not exceed the number abovementioned. Letter Bk. II. p. 181

There are no works in this Province that deserve the name of Fortifications; just behind & among our most western Settlements are some small Stoccado or Palisadoe Forts to which the Inhabitants may carry their wives & Children for Protection in Case of Alarms, while themselves unite & endeavour to prevent any small Parties of Indians making Incursions & destroying their stock & Habitations; beside these there is one larger tho in my Opinion not much more capable of Defence, on potowmack about 46 miles beyond our Settlements, it has been distinguished by the Appellation of Fort Cumberland & is at present garrisoned by 400 men from Virg[a] & this Gov[t] Ten of the Carriage Guns that His Majesty was graciously pleased to order to Virg[a] two years since are mounted in this Fort which is made with Stoccadoes & commanded almost on every side by circumjacent Hills. About 16 Miles on this side thereof is an Eminence situated just at the Conflux of the two streams called the North & South Branches of Potowmack & almost as far up as that River is Navigable for the smallest Craft, which might be easily fortified & I think rendered very strong at a small Expence. Should any more Troops be marched thro Virg[a] to the westward a place of Arms thereabouts would be absolutely necessary & I beleive nothing would contribute more effectually to the security of this & the contiguous parts of the two neighbouring Colonies than the Constructing a strong Fort there & gar-

Letter Bk. II. risoning it with a sufficient number of men. This in Obedience to the Orders that I had the honour to receive I humbly submit to Y^r^ Ldps & am R^t^ Honb^le^ &c—

[Sharpe to Pownall.]

To Iohn Pownall Esq^r^ Sec^y^ to the Board of Trade 8^th^ Feb^y^

S^r^

In Obedience to their Ldps Commands I send you inclosed particular Answers to the Heads of Enquiry that I was
p. 182 favoured w^th^ in Y^r^ Lett^r^ of the 15^th^ July last w^ch^ did not come to hand till Dec^r^ I presume you have long eer this received a Collection of the Laws which have from time to time been passed & are now in force in this Gov^t^ as they were transmitted in Sept^r^ by a Vessel of whose safe arrival at London I have been advised—I am

Original. Calvert Papers.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Annapolis the 8^th^ of March 1756

Sir

His Lordship was pleased by his Instructions bearing Date the 22^d^ of Aug^st^ to direct me to appoint M^r^ Young (who by marrying M^rs^ Graham is become related to His Lordship) to the Naval Office of Pocomoke & also to be Surveyor Gen^l^ of the Eastern Shore, in this I had anticipated his Lordships Commands & being desirous to serve M^r^ Young more particularly on Account of his Marriage as much as lay in my Power I had also given him the Disposal of the Sheveralty of Calvert County by which he receives £50 p Ann. but upon his Coming to Annapolis to know why he was not also called to the Council Board agreeable to his Lordships Orders, I thought my Duty to His Lordship obliged me to advise him ag^st^ insisting on that Step till I could have an Opportunity of writing to His Lordship or Yourself thereon. At the same time I represented to him that His Lordships Interest & the present State of the Council absolutely required that some Person of Abilities & if possible a Lawyer should be first preferred to that honour, that I daily expected His Lordships Instructions in Answer to Letters that I had writ on that Subject, & that if he would for a short time wave his Pretensions he would seem to consult His Lordships Interest & oblige me, & that as Nobody was privy to his being nominated by His Lordship but himself & me, his being not instantly called to the board could not be looked on by any here as a Neglect of him. I ventured so far as to tell him who I had recommended

to the first Vacancies, & upon a Consciousness that their superiour Qualifications might at this time be more serviceable to His Lordship than he could hope to be, he seemed to acquiesce & I promised him that as far as I should think it consonant with my Duty to His Lordship he might rest assured I should always be ready to serve him, to do which he must have been persuaded as I beleive you also are that I never wanted Inclination. Upon his saying that he expected I would make some farther Provision for him than the places which he already holds I desired him to acquaint me how I might do so & promised him that if twas in my power I should readily comply with his Request, He answered the Clerks^{p} of Kent County would satisfy his Desires it being an Office w^{ch} might in great measure be executed by a good Writer that he could easily engage for that purpose (that Clerkship you know you have already promised to a Son of the late Commissary Gen^{l} whose Estate lies in Kent County & ordered his Name to be entered in the Secretary's Office in memory of your having so done) I told him that in case a Clerkship should be vacant I had not the least Objection to such a proposition but observed that if he accepted such a Place he must relinquish all thoughts of being a Councillor, as there was a great Impropriety in a Persons being such a Ministerial Officer as a County Clerk is & at the same time being a Member of a Superiour Branch of the Legislature. Of this he said he would consider; & as he is lately removed hither with his Family, I have since had an Opportunity of conversing on this Subject with M^{rs} Young who does not seem much inclined to consent to her Husband's waving his Right to a Seat at the Council tho as she desires he may have a lucritive Employment as well as Honour she hopes he may depend on the Clerkship of Kent County when it becomes vacant (that being the best in the Province & Kent a pleasant part of the Country) but as it is possible M^{r} Smith the present Clerk might live many years tho he is pretty old, She hopes neither His Lordship nor yourself will be agst appointing M^{r} Young Keeper of the Western Shore Rent-Roll till the Clerkship falls, & desires I will second her in making such a Request. I have spoke to Colonel Lloyd to resign it & accept of the Eastern Shore Roll in lieu thereof & at the same time gave him in writing a Power & Order to dismiss M^{r} Tilghman from His Lordship's Service as soon as he had brought him to a proper Account, & made him resign up all the Books & Papers which he has relating to his Lordship's Rents. I do not know whether Colonel Lloyd has yet discharged M^{r} Tilghman but he is entirely averse to accepting that himself in lieu of the Western Shore Roll; & M^{r} Darnall also declines & refuses

Calvert Papers.

to accept either. The inclosed is a Copy of Mr Darnall's Lettr in answer to the proposal that in Obedience to His Lordship's Instructions I made him, he has at present the Naval Office of Potuxent which as he does not reside near that River he executes by Deputy; Unless I receive Instructions to the Contrary he will continue to enjoy that place; but should His Lordship be willing to have it conferred on any other Gentn I submit whether Mr Darnall may not on Mr Young's Resigning the Offices he holds at present for one more lucritive be appointed Naval Officer of Pocomoke, the Duty of which he might perhaps be able to execute by one of his Sons who I am told resides near that River; in such Case the Surveyorship would buy a Friend in the Lower House who might receive the Profitts, & to prevent it's being known let the Office be held in some third Person's Name as has been heretofore done; or that Office might be conferred on one of the Council or otherwise as you shall judge best. Mr Darnall I hear entertains very sanguine hopes of being one of the Council as I sometime since hinted to you, but I hope His Lordship will not be willing to promote him so far on the Consideration that the Nomination of a Person so obnoxious to the People on Account of his Family's being educated in a Religion agst which it is the fashion to be clamorous, will create great Uneasinesses here; & even out of regard to Mr Darnall himself I would advise him to decline it. Be pleased to signify his Lordship's pleasure with respect to him as well as Mr Young as soon as possible & I shall most punctually perform whatever shall be agreeable to His Lordship & yourself concerning them. You seem to think that as Mr Bordley is Attorney Genl & Naval Officer of Annapolis it would be proper to remove him to the Council, that such Persons are those that should be preferred to Seats there I entirely agree with you, & after Mr Dulany I do not care if he be thought most proper to be preferred. You apprehend that Colonel Lloyd is dissatisfied at Mr Chas Goldsborough's being not taken into the Council; I hope he is not such a Person as can bear no Disappointment without Resentment; however tho I cannot approve of Mr Goldsborough as a Councillor yet as he has not of late behaved amiss & might be made a usefull Tool in the Lower House (of which he & one of his Brothers are Members) on Account of his Cunning & Capacity to lead or impose on some of the Burgesses, I could wish to have it in my power to secure him, & from his Disposition I guess that might be done by giving him the Profitts of the Eastern Shore Surveyorship in case of Mr Young's being better provided for: this I presume would also satisfy Colonel Lloyd & make Mr Goldsborough serve His Ldp in a Character for which he seems best adapted. Agreeable to His Ldp's Instructions of

the 22d of August & as I writ in my last, I let Mr Thomas know that upon Mr Dulany's Resignation His Lordship had directed that some Gentleman of the Council should be appointed to succeed him as Joint Commissary with Mr Tasker, & that if he chose to accept he should not want my Approbation: On his embracing the Offer I acquainted Mr Tasker therewith fully persuaded that as he was to have a Copartner he would not refuse to accept Mr Thomas as such. Mr Tasker expressed himself a little surprized at what I said of His Lordship's Instructions, & thereon produced Your Letter advising him that if it was agreeable to him he might upon Mr Dulany's Resignation remain sole Commissary, which he said he would choose to do; accordingly I was obliged to make an Apology to Mr Thomas for making him an Offer of what I could not dispose of, & desire him for the present to accept in lieu thereof my promise that if it shall ever lye in my power he shall always find me ready & disposed to serve him. Colo Lloyd has not been over here lately, I have writ twice for him to attend the Upper House this Session, as soon as he comes I will communicate to him what you write concerning his Neglect in remitting His Lordship's Money & once more press him to a more punctual Compliance with His Lordship's Instructions as well as your repeated Advice on that Subject. You bid me look out for a proper Person to succeed him in case His Lordship should determine to appoint another Agent; had not Mr Tasker already resigned it I should not scruple to mention him, & then I would not despair of seeing Mr Dulany sole Commissary; indeed I think that Office should by all means have been his, however as His Ldp was pleased to order otherwise I do not renew my Solicitation on that head. Mr Calvert I think would be a pretty punctual Agent, were his Appointment agreeable to His Lordship; beside him there is Mr Thomas or Mr Goldsborough, or Mr Dulany by his Brother Walter. Mr Young I cannot venture to recommend to such a Trust, as his having spent a pretty good Fortune within two or three years forbids me to think he is the best Oconomist or qualified for a Place of so great Importance &c

Calvert Papers.

I am &c

Horo Sharpe

P. S. Inclosed are Seconds of Bills of Excha as heretofore for your Use & Disposal

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg March 8th 1756.

Lower House Journal, 1754–57. p. 193

Sir

The Commissioners to the Catawbas and Cherokees have Been gone a month When they Return shall give you a

Lower House Journal, 1754-57.

True Account of their Transactions with those people I have some hopes they will supply us with a Thousand men who must be paid and supported by the Neighbouring Colonies.

The Cherokees that came into Augusta About three months ago, with 230 of our Rangers are gone to Attack the Shawnesse in their Towns, I wish them success and on their Return shall give you an Account what has been done by them—

We are Intirely in want of Arms, none are sent here from his Majesty; our agent says there are 6000 sent to New England to be Distributed among the Colonies, they woud have come sooner to hand if sent from London; I have wrote General Shirley the great want we are in and Desired to be Supplyed if in his power I am glad your Assembly has Voted 40,000 and wish our Assembly may be prevaled on to grant a handsum sum They mett the 25th

I am sorry for that part of your letter, that the French intend to Attack Oswego this Winter, and hope the Intelligence is groundless but I fear we have not Men sufficient there to Defend the place.

I should gladly hope that the operations for these Southern Colonies shoud be to the Ohio if they did not succeed in Takeing the Fort they would make a very good Dispersion by hindering them on the Ohio from marching to Niagara; and I fear its Impossible to prevale with our people to go to Albany.

There are four Brass cannon of 12 pounders with all their Appertenances Landed here, General Shirley ordered them to New York, but I stopt them till I here from him as they will be greatly wanted, if we make any attempt the other side the Allegany mountains in the summer. I send you a Book and a small Bottle left With me for you.

I am with great Respect and esteem
Your Excellencys
Most humble and Obedient Servt
Robt Dinwiddie

P. S. pray have you any Account of Colo Cornwallies being Appointed to Command in Chief.

I have sent by the Commissioners to the Catawba's and Cherokees Goods to the Amount of 1000 for a Present.

Govr Sharpe

Original.

[Baltimore to Sharpe.]

London March 9. 1756.

Dear Sir/

I have the Pleasure to deliver this to the Earl of Loudoun, and to inform you of the Happiness His Majesty has done

America by His Appointment of his Lordship Commander in Chief of all His Forces there. His Lordship's real Merit is so well known and acknowledg'd as needs no Illustration. My Desire is, and seriously require of you My Lieut Governor, That you do not fail in Obedience of His Majesty's Commission to his Lordship and to the Importance and Service thereof, And that you in every thing with Fidelity will render your Self and incite the Legislature of Assembly in the Province to give all Aid and Supply requisite, and to require the Magistrates and officers Military, as well as all other Persons strictly by Duty and Allegiance to His Majesty to conform themselves with Service; That his Lordship thereby may be enabled to carry on with Vigour His Majesty's Service against the Common Enemy the Invaders of His Majesty's Crown and Dignity. wishing you health and happiness I am with Esteem

Your affectionate Friend

Baltimore

Post An Act of Parliament being passed—To enable His Majesty to grant Commissions to Foreign officers to Rank in America, and to raise Four Thousand men there for the defence of the Colonies; And being sensible of the great Utility and Advantage that must Accrue by such a Force. I therefore desire you'l Exert your Self in the Inlisting of the Force under the Command of his Lordship.

To Horatio Sharpe Esqr Lieut Governor of Maryland.

[Calvert to Sharpe. Fragment.] Original.

London March the 9th 1756.

Sir./

Last January the 6th I received a Letter from Mr Pownall Secretary to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, The Contents of which was vizt "He being by their Lordships Commanded to prepare for their Consideration the most exact Account he could Collect from the Information of the Persons for the several Colonies in North America and from the Acts and Proceedings of the Legislature of the said Colonies, of the number of men raised and of the Sums of money granted to His Majesty and Issued in each Colony since the 1st of January 1755 for repelling any Invasion or removing of any Encroachments made upon His Majesty's Dominions; He desired I would meet him at the office and bring with me such Papers as might give Lights with Respect to these Points.

In Answer to the Letter I delivered into the Board the Lords Commissioners present the 16th of February. vizt

A State of the number of men raised and of the Sums of Money Granted to His Majesty and Issued since the 1st of January 1755 Briefly Collected from the Acts and Proceedings of the Legislature of the Province of Maryland, and other the Most Authentick Vouchers yet come to hand.

I first set forth, In Pursuance of His Majesty's Commands and to Assist the Colony of Virginia, an Act passed in 1754 for £6.000 towards the Defence of Virginia.

That at the first Session in 1755, 22d February you had laid before the Assembly a Letter you had received from Sir Thos Robinson, and at the same time by your Speech in the most Earnest manner recommended to them to raise a large Sum as the Circumstances of the Province would allow, and further regulating the Hire of Waggons and Horses in Case the Service should require them to Impress either in the Government; and also to regulate by a Bill the Quarters of Soldiers.

That the 25th of February—The House of Delegates by their Address to you promised to Acquit themselves (the Circumstances of time and the People Considered) as not undeserving His Majesty's Goodness &c.

That the 26th of February . . . . The House of Delegates Resolved to Grant £10,000 for His Majesty's Service.

That the 28th of February . . . . you answer'd their Address and acquainted them That you had retained Sanguine hopes that they would fall on such measures as would meet with ready Concurrence of the other Branches of the Legislature.

That the 1st of March . . . . A Bill entitled an Act to raise a further Supply towards His Majesty's Service was brought in and read a first time and second, and sent to the Upper House.

That the 10th of March . . . . on your Message recommending the same, The House ordered in a Bill to prevent the Exportation of Bread, Flower, Victuals and Warlike Stores for Cape Briton Canada or any the French Garrisons.

That the same day—The Upper House return'd the Bill for raising a Supply towards His Majesty's Service with their Negative, as well with their Emission of a number of New Bills tending to depreciate the Credit of their Paper Currency, as in respect to the Appropriation of the Fines and Forfeitures accruing from ordinary Lycences.

That the 11th & 12th of March . . . . The Act for Regulating the Rates of Carriages and Quartering Soldiers &c was read a first and second time, and Sent to the Upper House.

That the 14th of March . . . . The Delegates sent a Message to the Upper House in answer to their objections to the Supply Bill, and Insisting upon the Bill in its then form.

That the 15th A Bill was brought in for preventing the

People of the Province from Supplying the French or their Indian Allies with Stores or Provisions of any kind, sent to the Upper House, who return'd it with some Amendments.

That the 19th The Upper House again return'd the Supply Bill Insisting upon their former objections, and further that the Clause to appropriate the Fines of ordinary Licences was an Attempt which struck at the Lord Proprietor's Rights.

That the 20th—The Upper House return'd the Bill for Regulating the Rates of Carriages and Quartering Soldiers &c. with Amendments, the next day agreed to by the Delegates; who likewise agreed to the Bill for preventing the Province from Supplying the French &c.

That the 21st The Delegates again sent a further Message to the Upper House upon the Supply Bill, Insisting that the Intended Emission would not Effect the Credit of the money then Current; And that the Appropriation of the Fines arising on the ordinary Licences was no Infringement of the Lord Proprietor's Rights, But even had his Lordship a Right to such Fines by Virtue of his Prerogative; The Upper House ought not in that Critical Conjuncture to be against the intended Application of them.

That the 24th—The Upper House return'd an Answer to the last Message upon the Supply Bill, showing the Lord Proprietor's Right under his Charter to the Fines from Licences, and that this Right had been acknowledged by the Lower House and Acquiesced in by the People near one Hundred years ago; with Various Instances in which it had been Exercised during that Period, and that his Right thereto devolved by Inheritance under the Royal Charter to his Ancestors, and was not in the least weaken'd by any of their Acts; However they had no design to Enter into any Controversys upon that point at that improper Season, when their Duty to the best of Kings call'd loudly to imploy their time more to the Advantage of the Common Cause against the Common Enemys. Assuring the Lower House of their Hearty Concurrence with them in any other unexceptionable measures of raising the Supply.

The same day .... The Lieut Governor sent a Message to the Lower House Communicating to them a Letter he had received from Genl Braddock, and Expressing his Hopes that it would Add some weight to Sir Thos Robinson's Letter and incline them to answer in some measure His Majesty's Expectations, at least so far as to provide Victuals for such of His Majesty's Forces as might at their Arrival befor a short time Quarter'd in or have occasion to March thrô the Province; And further that they would not be averse to Continuing on Foot those men that had been already raised in the Government, and to granting a Sum of Money for that purpose, as

well as for defraying such Incidental Charges as would be Occasion'd by Hiring or Impressing Horses or Carriages in the Province to Convey the Soldiers Baggage, and by his Appointment of Persons at proper Places to Carry any Dispatches between the General's Head Quarters and that Place, or else where His Majesty's Service might require.

The 25th In Answer to this Message, The Lower House in an Address to the Lieut Governor Express'd a Concern at the Negative put upon the Supply Bill by the Upper House, Concluding with a request to the Lieut Governor to put a speedy End to this Sessions.

The 26th—The Lieut Governor sent a further Message to the Lower House, again recommending it to them to Appropriate a Sum of Money to the uses mention'd in his former Message and in Genl Braddock's Letter; as the same might be raised without having Recourse to any of the proposed means in their said Bill, and as they were Services of a Local peculiar nature arising Entirely within that Government.

The same day.—The Lower House came to several Resolutions Insisting that the Fines arising on ordinary Licences were the undoubted Right of the Country and that the Lord Proprietor had no Right thereto.

The same day .... They again address'd the Lieut Governor refusing to make further Proposal than had been already made, for replacing any moneys to be granted to provide for the Requisitions made by the Letters of Sir Thos Robinson and Genl Braddock and every other purpose relative to His Majesty's Services on the then Exigency; And again Insisting that the Appropriation of the ordinary Licences Fines (which had at last appear'd to be the great Obstacle to their repeated Generous Grants) was the undoubted Right of the Country, That nothing ever would induce them to give up or do any thing which might weaken that Right; and since the Upper House by their Messages seemed determined not to depart from what they look'd upon in that Particular as the Lord Proprietor's Right, there was no room to Expect any thing further to be done, And therefore they again requested the Lieut Governor to put an End to the Sessions accordingly.

The same day .... The Lieut Governor with the Advice of the Council Prorogued the Assembly to the 1st of July then next, after first Passing two Acts, the one for Regulating the Rates of Carriages and Quartering Soldiers &c. and the other to Prevent the People of the Province from Supplying the French or their Indian Allies with Ammunition Warlike Stores or Provisions of any kind.

The 22d of May 1755 .... The Lieut Governor mentions in his Letter to the Secretary of the Province, That a Company

of Sixty men was raised in Maryland to March with Gen[l] Braddock.

The 10[th] of Iune 1755 .... And in a second Letter mentions that he had ordered the officers of the Militia to Muster and Discipline the men under their Command.

Second Sessions.

The 23[d] of June 1755 .... The Assembly again mett, being call'd together before their time by the Lieut Governor upon Receipt of a Letter from Gen[l] Braddock, which he laid before them with an earnest Request to let the Reasons therein offered have their due weight and determine them to grant such Supplys as the then Situation of Affairs required in Conjunction with the Neighbouring Colonies as a Barrier against any further Encroachments to be Garrisoned with Provincial Troops; and intreating them whatever Supplys they might agree, to Grant them such Dispatch as might render them Effectual.

The 24[th] of June .... The Upper House in their Address assured the Lieut Governor, that as Gen[l] Braddock's requisition appear'd to them Highly reasonable and Necessary for the Common Safety; they should be ready to concur in all proper Measures for that Purpose.

The same day... The Lower House in their Address promised the Lieut Governor to take the Subject matter in his Speech under their immediate and most attentive Consideration, Flattering themselves that their Speedy Resolution thereupon would fully demonstrate their readiness to Embrace the Opportunity which then presented it Self of manifesting their unshaken Loyalty to the best of King's, and at the same time a steady adherence to the true Interest and Priviledges of their Constituents.

The 25[th] of June .... The Lower House Resolved that £5000 should be raised for His Majesty's Service, and that the Money Arising on ordinary Licences should be one of the ways for replacing the same.

The 26[th] of June .... The Committee Proposed that out of the Sum of £3829.. 2.. 11½ then remaining in the Office for Emitting Bills of Credit, together with any other Sums that should be next brought into that office, there should be paid £5,000 for His Majesty's Service in such manner as should be needfull, And that for replacing the same the several Impositions therein mention'd amounting together to £1788. ꝑ ann should be laid and continued; amongst which the Fines on ordinary Licences were then computed to amount to £644. ꝑ ann. with which Report the House Concurr'd, and immediately

ordered the same Committee to bring in a Bill for raising £5000 Currency for His Majesty's Service.

The 27th of June .... The House ordered in a further Bill for Continuing to prevent the Supply to the French &c.

The 29th of June .... A Bill was brought in for granting a further Supply towards His Majesty's Service, read a first and second time, and sent to the Upper House.

The same day .... The Lieut Governor sent a Message to the Lower House acquainting them with Advices received from Col Innes at Fort Cumberland, of the Loss of some of the back Inhabitants of Frederick County Killed or Carried off by the French Indians; and recommending it as highly proper to them, about one hundred or at least a Company of Sixty men to be Posted or Constantly ranging for some time on the Frontiers for their Protection; and that the Assembly would enable him to Support such a Number, and at the same time acquainting them that he had at the Generals request Engaged several Persons to receive and Convey any Letters between that Place and Wills's Creek directed to the General or himself; And desiring them to Provide for the Expences thereof.

The same day .... The House Resolved to make Suitable Provision for raising and paying Eighty men including officers for Ranging for four months (if occasion) on the Frontiers of the Province against the French or their Indian Allies, and that they would defray the reasonable Expence of Intelligence from Wills's Creek to Annapolis and back thither for four months; and they at the same time appointed a Committee to Enquire into ways and means for raising a Sum Sufficient for the said Purposes: And the said Committee on the 30th of the same month by their Report proposed that the Sum of £1500 part of £4.016.. 6.. 0 Bills of Credit then remaining Signed in the Currency office and not Circulated, should be immediately Issued for defraying the said Expences; and a Bill was ordered accordingly.

The 1st of July .... The Upper House return'd the Bill for raising the £5000 with their Negative In regard the amount of the Dutys for replacing the same appeared to them to be very precarious, and there was no Provision in the Bill for Supplying the Deficiency; and for, that part of the Duty was on the Moneys arising on ordinary Licences the appropriation of which was a disputable matter; but intreating the Assembly when the Call for a Supply towards the Support of His Majesty's Rights and their own Safety was so very Pressing, to fall on some Expedient to render the Bill more perfect.

The 2d of Iuly .... The Lower House Resolved on a Message to be sent to the Upper House for Enforcing the Supply Bill.

The same day .... A Bill was brought in for securing the Western Frontiers against the French &c. and also for paying Couriers from Wills's Creek to Annapolis &c. sent to the Upper House.

The 3^{d} of July .... They Resolved a Duty of one penny ℔ Gallon on Molasses and one shilling ℔ Hundred on Muscavado Sugar Imported, to be apply'd towards replacing the £5000 to be raised by the Supply Bill.

The same day .... The Upper House return'd the Bill for securing the Western Frontiers against the French &c. with their Negative, as the Execution of the Bill appeared to them Impracticable for the Purposes intended by it.

The 4th of July .... In pursuance of a Message from the Lieut Governor, the Lower House brought in a Bill to prevent any kind of Supply to the French &c. sent the same to the Upper House who agreed to the same.

The 5th of July .... The Bill for Granting a further Supply towards His Majesty's Service was read a first and second time, sent to the Upper House with the Additional Clauses and a Message sent, Insisting that the Dutys mention'd in the first Bill were more than sufficient for replacing the £5000, and that the money on Licences was thereby clearly appropriated.

The same day .... They likewise sent back to the Upper House the Bill for securing the Western Frontier &c. alledging the Execution thereof practicable and pressing them to pass the same; which the Upper House the same day refused, as being Irregular after their Negative.

The same day.... The Lieut Governor by Message acquainted the Lower House with fresh advices received, of fifteen more white Inhabitants being kill'd by the French Indians in Frederick County.—In answer they Express their concern by a Message of the same day, at the melancholly Fate of their Countrymen, together with their Hopes that the Bill then Depending before the Upper House would (if concurr'd to) have the desired Effect of Securing their Frontiers.

The 7th of July .... The Lieut Governor sent a Message to the Lower House by which (after acquainting them that it had been intimated to him by some of the Gentlemen of the Upper House that they had return'd the Bill for securing the Western Frontier &c. by reason they judged the Allowance of Money and time therein mention'd would not sufficiently answer the Purposes for which they Conceived it was designed) He intreated them to Lose no time, but as they regarded the Lives of their fellow Subjects and Constituents who remain'd exposed to the repeated Cruelties of Barbarous Savages for want of their taking some measures for their Protection;

That they would without delay Re-Consider the Bill and Amend it in such a manner that it might better answer the End for which it was Calculated.

The same day .... The Delegates upon Consideration of this Message refused to Re-Consider the former Bill or to permit a new Bill to be brought in for the like Purposes, thô Proposed with some small variation in the Title; and on the same day, (after ordering the two Bills the one for Raising the Supply and the other for Securing the Western Frontier to be incerted in their Journals and Printed) Address'd the Lieut Governor to dismiss them.

The same day .... After delivering of this Address, The Lieut Governor sent a further Message to the Lower House acquainting them; that he had just received Advice from the Northern Governments that the French Fleet from Brest with Four thousand Land Forces were arrived in the Harbour of Lewisburgh and that he was also informed that no Couriers had arrived at Fort Cumberland for some days from Gen[l] Braddock whence there was reason to apprehend that the Enemy were between the two Camps and had cutt off the Communication; And that he was unwilling to Comply with the request they had just then made him before he had Communicated to them this Intelligence, and Desired them once more to take the unhappy Condition of their Country and the Back Inhabitants under their Considerations, and to make some Provision for their Safety and Protection.

The 8[th] of July .... The Lieut Governor sent them a Letter from Gov[r] Shirley Solliciting them to lay an Embargo on all Vessels laden with Provisions for three months, and recommending it to them to come into the same Resolution. Upon which Message they immediately ordered in a Bill accordingly, which they Passed and sent the same to the Upper House; who next day return'd it with an Amendment appropriating one third of the Penalties or Forfeitures to the use of the Lord Proprietor, upon which the Lower House (who had appropriated one Moiety to the Informer and the other Moiety to the Publick in Exclusion of the Lord Proprietor), Rejected the Bill.

The same day .... They again Address'd the Lieut Governor to put a Speedy End to the Session.

Accordingly

The same day .... The Lieut Governor in the presence of both Houses of Assembly gave the usual Assent to the Bill first proposed, An Act to prevent the Exportation or Carrying out of this Province Ammunition Warlike Stores or Provisions of any kind to Supply the French or their Allies; which the Lower House had by their Message of the same day acquainted him they apprehended to be sufficient to answer the Purposes

proposed by the Bill brought in the same day and which had Miscarried on occasion of the Amendment to the Use of the Lord Proprietor.

And then the Lieut Governor in compliance with their repeated request (after acquainting them in a short Speech that he found the Business for which they were Convened must be left undone) Prorogued them with the Advice of the Council to the first of January then next.

The 9th of July . . . . The Lieut Governor by Letter acquainted the Lord Proprietor with his having Prorogued the Assembly and that as no other hopes then remained, he was about to Set off for Frederick County to try what could be done with the Militia of that County, whose officers were ordered to meet, and that he intended to have Eighty men furnish'd from their several Companys by Lot or otherwise which he should form into one Company of Rangers and Impress Victuals according to the Direction of the Militia Act for their Subsistance, 'till the Barbarians should decline to infest their Borders.

The 23d of July . . . . The Lieut Governor sent an Account received from Captn Orme of the Unhappy Defeat of Genl Braddock, and writes that when he received that Account, he was on his way to Fort Cumberland with a number of Gentlemen and Voluntiers who had Entered into an Association to bear Arms and Protect their Frontiers. That he should now Halt at Frederick Town and if he found the Troops were well Supplyed, should Expend part of a Sum (which the Council and Gentlemen of the Assembly of the Country had Subscribed upon the Assembly's Refusal at their last Meeting to Grant any Supplies) in Purchasing a Quantity of fresh Provisions and such things as he should think necessary for the Troops; And Escort them with such men as he could perswade to join him to Fort Cumberland, where he expected to find Col Dunbar by that time arrived. That he should then Learn what he proposed to do, and if he should Resolve to make another Attempt before he could receive Instructions from home, He (the Lieut Governor) should perhaps be under a Necessity of meeting the Assembly again and Solliciting them to send them a Re-inforcement and a Quantity of Provisions and Ammunition. That the Subscription which had been made would at least Enable him to keep up a Company of Rangers for the Protection of the Frontiers.

The 11th of August . . . . The Lieut Governor writes to the Lord Proprietor as follows . . . .

In my Letter dated the 23d of July I Gave your Lordship an Account of Genl Braddock's misfortune near the Banks of Monongahala and acquainted your Lordship that I was then proceeding towards Wills's Creek Principally with a View of

Encouraging the Distant Inhabitants to remain in their Plantations, which the Terror of the Indians Incursions and the Alarming news of the General's Ill Success Inclined them to relinquish and Desert; Those that I mett flying from the Frontiers I prevailed upon to return back, and by ordering some small Forts to be built at proper distances from each other in the Western part of Frederick County whereunto the People may resort in Case of Alarms; I hope I have made and left them pretty well Satisfyed and Contented, Each of those Forts I have Garrisoned with a few men who have my orders to Patroll from one to the other, and keep a Communication Free and open; These men I am Enabled to Support by a Subscription that has been made by the Gentlemen of this and some of the other Counties, and from the same Fund I Subsist the Maryland Company by Capt[n] Dagworthy that march'd with the General; But which is now left with the Virginia and North Carolina Troops at Fort Cumberland under the Command of Governor Innes.

And in this Letter he mentions Gov[r] Morris's having Convened the Assembly of Pensilvania in hopes to raise money for His Majesty's Service, And that if they prepared such a Bill as would be agreeable to their Governor; he should also meet the Assembly of Maryland upon the same occasion in hopes they might (notwithstanding their late Resolves) be perswaded to waive the Points contended for.

In another Letter of the same date he mentions Forts which he had ordered to be built, one on Tonallaway and three under the North Mountain.

The 9[th] of September 1755 .... Immediately upon Advice received of Gen[l] Braddock's Defeat, The Lord Proprietor (in Complyance with the Resolves of the Assembly who had so often refused to Grant any money for His Majesty's Service without an Appropriation of His Lordship's Fines arising from Ordinary Licences to which he had an indisputable Right under his Charter Exercised for many years by his Ancestors and never relinquish'd) did by a Special Instruction Issued on that occasion, Authorize his Lieutenant Governor to pass an Act of Assembly in Aid of Money Loan, by which for the better Support and Defence of the Common Cause against the Enemy, His Lordship gave up His Right not only to the Ordinary Licences which alone had been estimated by the Lower House at £640 p Ann (and are in reality of near double that Value) But also of Hawkers & Pedlars & the Money arising by such Licences with the ffines & fforfeitures to be Appropriated for a time to the Com̄on Cause. Giving with pleasure his Interest in Both to & for the service of His Majesty & the defence & Safety of the Province.

It is to be hoped this Self-denying & seasonable Instruction of the L^d^ Proprietors has Effectually removed all Misunderstanding be^t^ the Different Branches of the Legislature of the Province, & that his Lord^p^ by complying with every Encroachm^t^ & Demand by the Lo: House has Conciliated their minds & bro^t^ them into a proper temper & disposition to Concur in every Necessary measure for the support & Promoting the Comon Cause, and that the Good Effect will soon appear in a perfect unanimity between both Houses.

These are the Chief contents of what I delivered to the Lords Comiss^rs^ for Trade & Plantations, Being Extracts from the Maryland Iournals of Both Houses of Assembly & from y^r^ Letters. From the materials thereof, I endeavour'd on the contents of M^r^ Pownel's Let^r^ by setting forth all Persons & things concern'd in the Clearest Light to Answer their Lord^ps^ Requisitions to Me. With Observation to the Board that their call being sudden & the time allowed short, I therefore hoped their Lord^ps^ Goodness in Excusing the incorrectness of what I delivered to them, being not properly prepared from the L^t^ Gov^r^ of the several Transactions & expences the People of the Province of Maryland had done for His Majesty's service. However apprehend^g^ such a call from their Lord^ps^ might be, I had write to you desiring a particular Acco^t^ of all such transactions on the recival of w^h^ I wo^d^ lay the same before their Lord^ps^

The Agents for America were present. The Earl of Hallifax the 1^st^ Comiss^r^ spoke to this Effect "That the Lords Comiss^rs^ were not Surprised at the inaccuracy of the several Estimates delivered, the time given being too short to expect exactness, & said he desired he wo^d^ take him right as not Entring upon what each Province had expended for his Majesty's service. But that the Reason of our present summons to the Board was to Inform us of his Majesty's Intention & Gracious Benevolence to give a Large sum of Money to be applyed to the Releif & defence of his several Colonies & Dominions in America & of w^h^ his Lord^p^ could not then particularly Specify what wo^d^ be each Colony's share, But that would be soon known. And Remark'd the Bounty was not to be Considered as a recompence in paym^t^ for Expences Each had been at for his Majesty's service. Thus Concluded our Summons before the Board. I send this acco^t^ for y^r^ Satisfaction as you are a Chief concern'd. I Learn from y^r^ Brother Iohn that the Proprietor & y^r^ Conduct is approved of, & that they regarded the extract of Acco^t^ I delivered fairly deduced from the Provincial proceedings &c.

Feb^y^ the 3^d^ From a Motion by S^r^ Geo: Lytelton the Comon's agreed to the report that 95000£ be grant'd to the Plantations in North America That part 5000£ be Granted to S^r^ W^m^

Johnson Bar^{t} for His faithfull service there. Its with concern I acquaint you Virginia, Maryland & Pensilvania & the two Carolina Colonies are s^{d} excluded the Benefit. My Lord has done all he can to Obtain Fire Armes from the Money Granted, But to no purpose. Y^{r} Iohn says, the Construction had & held of them Province is, they have fail'd of that just regard & not complying to His Majesty's Requisitions—Comunicat'd to them by His Majesty's Sec^{y} of State, therefore the Legislature here think them at present not of Notice to His Majesty.

The 15th ibid. The Comons in a Comittee on the Bill relating to fforeign Protestant Officers to go to America after a long Debate it pass'd in the Affirmative 215 ag^{t} 63 the 25th ibid they agree'd to the Report of the Bill 158 ag^{t} 58.

The Intention of the Bill as I am Inform'd, is a matter of great importance, its consequence tends intierly to the safety of His Majesty's Subjects & Dominion in America. The Scheme proposed is His Majestys appointm^{t} for a Regiment consisting of four Battallions of a 1000 Men in each Battallion to be raised of His Majesty's fforeign & other Protestant Subject in North America that of Comiss^{d} Officers a certain Number be given to the Born & Resident Subjects in America.

The Earl of Loudon is by His Majesty appoint'd Comand^{r} in Chief of the fforces in America under him Major Gen^{l} Abercrombe. His Lord^{ps} departure is soon. The Lord Proprietor does earnestly recom^{d} to you & that you will exert y^{r} Self & incite the Legislature Power also all Magistrates Civil & Military & all Persons in the Province that they may & do conform themselves with real Duty to his Lord^{ps} required by His Majesty, Especially ag^{t} the Enemy the invaders of His Majesty's Crown & Dignity. The Earls Character is of real Abbilities, all allow great Qualifications in him & of an affable disposition. My Lord desires you'l cultivate a good Understanding with him & renders him all service Possible, either on his arrival into the Province or occasioned by His Comand^{s} Let^{r} or Message, requiring of you & the Province the Necessary Requisitons for His Majesty's service. And as it will be Necessary the Better for Inlisting the Born Subjects as well as the Germans Settlers for composing the four Battallions to be raised, His Lord^{p} being sensible of the great Advantage that must accrue by such a fforce. He requests, & doubts not y^{r} best Endeavours to conciliate the Minds of the People of his Province thereto, & that they will with affection Duty & Allegiance acquit themselves in Duty & real Conscience Bound in Defence of His Majesty & the Country ag^{t} all Invaders of the King's Crown & Dignity.

[Extract of letter of Calvert to Sharpe.]

Mr Lloyd has sent three Books as Rent Rolls of Ann Arundel Cōty Charles County & Calvert County for the year 1753 certified from the Land Office but no way answering to the Form sent Mr Tasker by me & enforced by a special Instruction from the Lord Proprietor's Guardians in May 1752 which Form was intended to satisfy the Lord Proprietor of the particulars of his several Landed Incomes in Maryland & the several Tenures they are held under, whether in fee or on Leases for Lives & for what Lives or for Terms & for what Terms of years so respectively held, to which Mr Lloyd has been referred to each of these Books after the Certificate of them from the Land Office being signed a Memorandum is inserted of Rents of Lands paid for but could not find them because the Original Takers up were not known. This ought therefore to be particularly enquired into that the present possessors who pay for them may shew by what Title they hold them which will make the Original Takers of them up to be found in the Land Office as no Lands can be legally held but by Grants from that Office this I have noted to Mr Lloyd as also other Observations arising which want Explanation.

I herewith send you Instructions from My Lord with a Copy thereto annexed of the Form sent in May 1752 for stating His Lordship's Landed Revenues by, in order to have proper Returns perfected agreeable to His Lordship's Expectation. In which Instructions you are to require not only the Officer or Officers of the Land Office but also the Rent-Roll Keepers who are paid for being Controlls on the Collectors to examine & sign the several Rolls, & to be so signed in your presence that the Seal of the Province may be affixed thereto in testimony of such their Signatures before you. These Rent Rolls when once compleated & return'd the Additions or Alterations in them which may happen in subsequent years will be only necessary to be annually made appear under the like Authenticity for proving the Rectitude of the Agent & Receiver General's Yearly Accompts to be transmitted. As the Rent Rolls of the Western Shore may be forthwith made out as required to give my Lord the Satisfaction he has so long expected. Let them be immediately proceeded upon by the proper Directions to be given by you under My Lord's Authority for that purpose; & in their Progress let them be brought before you to see that they are in a right Method to give My Lord the knowledge of his several Reserved Rents & how they have arisen & do arise & are held. And the Rent-Rolls of the Eastern Shore you are to direct to be made out in like manner with all possible Dispatch under your Inspection for the Rectitude of their method in making them out to

answer My Lord's Expectation, the beforementioned three Rentals consist only of Estates in fee held in the said Counties & they not specifying the different Rates of the Annual Rents the several quantities of Acres are respectively held at to prove the Rents in Charge to be rightly computed; nor the proper References from whence they are taken out of the Records of the Land Office for procuring the Numbers of Acres granted & the Rates of Annual Rents reserved on each Grant to be the same as in Charge; are the Deficiencies to be rectified in these three Rent Rolls as well as the other Observation sent to M^r^ Lloyd which have arisen thereon.

From M^r^ Lloyd is lately received £3181. 0. 3 to My Lord's Account & a Sketch of his Account for 1754 but with the said Sketch he has neither sent the Land Office, Naval Officers nor any other Accounts or Vouchers to support & prove it—tis a peculiar Conduct; all Agents having annually transmitted compleat Accompts to the 29^th^ of Sept^r^ his Delay is not only in this respect therefore can't be submitted to much longer, His Lordship hearing it with uneasiness & in Defiance of Duty to his Affairs essential; he thereupon recommends to your serious Consideration concerning M^r^ Lloyd's Deficiency, & that you'll in Case he questions his Duty to accept of his Resignation & appoint another more for the purpose to the carrying on his Affairs so important, as particularly the Requisitions thereof do relate to his Honour & Support of Life—M^r^ Lloyd seems by the Tenor of his Let^r^ full of Iealousie he says "he wishes that all Offices that of necessity in Virtue of my Post I must have the Inspection into the Offices therein, I hope may be so far approved by me as to have my recom^dn^ otherwise Sir a Man greatly opposite to me in sentiments if not otherwise unfit may be appointed by w^h^ means you can supose His Lord^ps^ affairs would be but Ill Conducted." His Lord^p^ doubts not y^r^ Circumspection & Counteance to him & of future Agents concern'd in his Revenues with regard to their recom̄^dns^ that you'l consent & accept thereof so far as is consistent with good Policy & Circumstance of Affairs. M^r^ Lloyds Drift is, to get M^r^ Charles Goldsbrough into Place (of w^h^ he mentions his offer to you) My Lord will not admit him, unless by recom̄^dn^ from you. I have hinted him so, & that it is out of my Power to Medle it being with My Lord & you. And I shall do so on all such request to me, a Caution due to y^r^ Rank & scitituation in the Province. And to that Effect I have now write to M^r^ Dulany to address you as the way to advance with favour with My Lord.

I have been in hopes thro y^r^ Brothers Iohn & W^ms^ Interests you wo^d^ have rec^d^ His Majesty's Comiss^n^ as Col: of one of the new Battallions to be raised in America (tis due to y^r^ Service) not any thing has been wanting in me to render you such

service, & since its not obtained, I have told y^r^ Brother Will^m^ that I hoped, he & Iohn wo^d^ get you the Establishm^t^ of half pay in consequence of y^r^ last Comiss^n^ from His Majesty as L^t^ Col: & Comm̄d^r^ in Chief of the fforces in America.

My Lord having rec^d^ a Let^r^ from M^r^ Hugh Jones Bohemia Maryland Nov^r^ 28^th^ 1755. wherein he speaks of himself with much Merit on Acco^t^ of services done the late Lord & the present, in the Disputes between Maryland & Pensilvania & further observes, that he imagines the south Branch of Potomack extends much the furthest to the westw^d^ w^h^ he says he thinks is now generally allow'd, tho' L^d^ Fairfax has laid down his western Boundary by a Line from the south Branch of Rappahenock to the north Branch of Potomack w^h^ he observes deprives L^d^ Baltimore of a vast quantity of Land evidently within His Charter, with^t^ any advantage to Lord Fairfax, for he wo^d^ include as much if not more Lands by running to the southern Branch as he does by running to the northern. My Lord desires you'l inquire into these matters with respect to the North & south Branches of Potomack River, how the Courses of the River runs to his Advantage or Disadvantage, And if to his Advantage with^t^ Loss to Lord Fairfax, you will endeavour & ajust the same w^th^ Lord Fairfax; And under this Head the Colony of Virginia must be included in such Adjustm^t^ of these matters, you will by the earliest Opportunity acquaint My Lord by Let^r^ from y^r^ self. M^r^ Iones desires a Compensation for his Trouble & Endeavours for the Benefit of My Lord, w^h^ he has been at & has been by him transmitted he requests of His Lord^p^ for his son in Law M^r^ Simon Willmer of Kent to be sheriff of that County, the next vacancy in 1756 & says he dare engage for his Qualifications & due Discharge of that Office, of w^h^ Request His Lord^p^ Leaves to y^r^ Consideration, as now the Sheriffs are to be the Receivers of His Quit-Rents; if you think M^r^ Iones's Request consistent with His Lord^ps^ Affairs you will admit thereof.

War or Peace seems still as uncertain as ever. all Regiments here are almost completed. The same is said of the great Levies in France, from whence England is threaten'd with an Invasion. Notwithstand^g^ the most refined Politicians still venture to assert there will be no War, the Truth of w^h^ this summer must discover. The Treaty lately concluded between His Majesty & the King of Prussia, whereby the latter has engag'd to Guarantee the Electorate of Hanover against fforeign Troops &c. seems to have sett France at a Loss what Turn to take.

May All Health and Happyness attend you and the Province of Maryland is the sincere wish of him who is with peculiar Esteem,

Dear Sir
Your Sincere Humble Servant
Cæcil^s^ Calvert.

Post I have heard nothing of Mr Stuart whom you put into My Office untill my Deputy was appoint'd whom by this time I reckon has enter'd the Office. It is with concern my giving you trouble in desiring you to inquire & inspect into Mr Stuarts doing me Iustice, I can rely on none else of being adjust'd in paym The Revd Mr Meyer's Father inquires greatly after his son, he says he has not heard from him, wh gives him much uneasyness, it is of consequence to the Minister himself Apperhending you see him, I desire you will apprize him of this, for his giving his Father satisfaction soon.

Original.

[Fox to Sharpe.]

No. 1. Whitehall 13th March 1756.

Sir,

The Earl of Loudoun whom the King has appointed Commander in Chief of all His Forces, whatsoever, in North America, being preparing to set out with all possible Expedition, together with two Regiments of ffoot, a Train of Artillery, and a sufficient Quantity of Warlike Stores, which His Majesty has been pleased to order for the Publick Service, in those Parts, I am commanded to signify to you the King's Pleasure, that you should be ready to give His Lordship, and the Troops from England, all the Assistance in your Power, on their Arrival in America, agreable to the orders sent you in Sir Thomas Robinson's Letter of October 26th 1754, and you will correspond with, and apply to the Earl of Loudoun, on all Occasions, in the same manner as you were directed to do with the late General Braddock, and Major General Shirley.

It being of great Importance to the King's Service, that all possible Facilities should be granted for the Encouragement of such Persons, as may be inclined to enlist in the King's Troops, It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that you should particularly recommend it to your Assembly to make Provision out of such Funds as already exist, or may hereafter be raised for the King's Service, for repaying the Masters of such Indented Servants, as shall engage in His Majesty's Service, the money paid by the said Masters upon the original Contract, in proportion to the time, such Indented Servants have to serve; and you will at all times discourage the harbouring, concealing or assisting such, as shall desert the Service, and also use all means for discovering and apprehending such Deserters; you will likewise use your best Endeavours to prevail on your Assembly to appropriate such part of the Funds now raised; or which shall be raised for the Publick Service, to be issued and applied to the General Service, in such manner as the Commander in Chief shall direct.

The King would have you recommend it in the strongest manner to your Council and Assembly, to pass effectual Laws for prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the French, and for preventing the Exportation of Provisions of all kinds to any of their Islands or Colonies.

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
H Fox

Deputy Governor of Maryland.

[Fox to Sharpe.] Original.

No. 2. Whitehall March 13th 1756.

Sir

I have acquainted you in my other Letter, of this Date, with the Kings having appointed the Earl of Loudoun to be commander in chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North America, but as it will be some Time, before His Lordship or Major General Abercrombie who is to be the next in Command to Him, can set out from hence, the King has directed Colonel Webb (who will forward this Letter to you) to embark immediately for North America, and to take upon him the Command of the Forces, there till the Arrival of Lord Loudoun or Major General Abercrombie; You will therefore correspond with Colonel Webb, & give him all necessary Lights & Assistances, in the same manner you were directed to do, to the late General Braddock.

It having been represented that a considerable Number of Foreign Settlers in America might be more willing to enter into the King's Service if they were commanded by officers of their own Country, an Act of Parliament has been passed, of which I send you inclosed a printed Copy, Enabling his Majesty to grant Commissions to a certain Number of German Swiss, & Dutch Protestants who have served as Officers or Engineers, & as they have already Engaged they will embark with all Expedition in order to assist in raising and commanding such of the Foreign Protestants in North America, as shall be able and willing to serve with the rest of the Forces upon this occasion; And it is the King's Pleasure that you should give any of the said Officers who may come into your Government, all the Assistance, in your Power, in the Execution of this Service. It being of the greatest Importance, that His Majesty should be, in the present situation of Affairs, truly and exactly informed of the real State of Defence of all His Colonies in

America, as well in Relation to the Ordnance and Stores of War which are in each Colony respectively as to the Forts and Fortifications & the Number of their Inhabitants, it is the King's Pleasure, that you should prepare and transmit to the Earl of Loudoun, or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces for the Time being, an exact & particular account thereof, with Respect to the Colony under your Government, in which you are to express the present actual State & quantity of the Canon, small Arms, Amunition and other Ordnance and Military Stores, belonging to the said Colony, either in the publick Magazines, or in the Possession of the Militia, or other private Persons, together with the true State of all Places, either already fortified or which you judge forthwith necessary to be fortified with your opinion at large in what manner His Majesty may farther contribute to the Security & Defence of the said Colony & also as exact an Account as you can obtain of what Number the Militia is composed, and how armed, mustered & trained,

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
H Fox

P. S.
Your Letter of Oct^{r} 8th
has been received

Deputy Governor of Maryland.

Original.

[Morris to Sharpe.]

Sir,

I congratulate you on General Shirley's Nomination, and the Vote of your Assembly which I hope they will carry into execution & raise the Money time enough to answer the Publick Purposes.

My Assembly have been sitting from the 3^{d} of Feb^{y} but have come to no Resolutions as to the part they will take in the operations of the summer, and are now adjourned for a fortnight, which in my mind, after such a delay amounts to a declaration that they do not intend to do more than they have already done; but I may be mistaken.

We have in this Province no Cannon but what are mounted upon a Battery near Philad^{a} they are Iron of 18, 24, & 32 pound shot, and are the property of private Men.

The friendly Indians that Remain with us are very few and they are so much affraid of being near the frontiers, where they may be mistaken for Enemies that I have removed them to

Philad[a] and intend to settle them upon the Mannor of Pennsbury, which is situated on the River Delaware about twenty Miles above Philad[a] They have press'd me strongly to build a Fort, at Shamokin, and promis'd to Collect all Their Friends and settle there when such Fort is built, all I expect from them is that they will not joyn the Indians against us; but have no hopes of Persuading them to take up the Hatchet against the Delawares & Shawanese; the Gen[l] Pollicy of the Northern Indians being not to destroy one another.

By Letters from Albany I hear that the small Pox in Canada has swept off two hundred Indians, and many Canadians, that ten of the Oswego Garrison employed in cutting Wood were carry'd off Prisoners, and that there was a Scarcity of Provisions there, but I cannot think this last Article true.

The second Packet is not arrived, but has been long expected, When she comes I shall not fail to forward your Letters and write you any news I may receive by her. A Vessel from Lisbon cast away on our Capes brings News from London down to the middle of Jan[y] when things were in just the same state they had been for some time, the English Men of War Continued to take the french Vessels and the French lay still, whether they are determin'd to submit and comply with our demands, or whether they are meditating some great Blow against us must be left to time to discover, but if it be the Latter I am fearfull America will be the scene.

I am Sir with great Regard
Your Most obed[t]
Humble Serv[t]
Rob[t] H. Morris

New Castle
March 20. 1756

Gov[r] Sharpe

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Letter Bk. II. p. 182

Annapolis March 20[th] 1756.

S[r]

I embrace the Opportunity of a Vessel's going hence to Hampton to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lett[r] dated the 13[th] Inst. & return you thanks for y[r] Promise to do every thing in y[r] Power to contribute to the Success of any Expedition that I might be enabled to undertake this Summer in pursuance of General Shirley's Commission & Instructions. As I have not yet heard that the Assembly of Pensilvania have granted any Supplies towards carrying on any Expedition, I confess my hopes are not very sanguine, & the less so, as I think our

Letter Bk. II. Assembly also have been equally dilitory no Bill being yet brought into the House & I have reason to fear that when one shall make its Appearance twill be such as I am not at liberty to accept. I do not learn that the second Packett is arrived at N York if she should bring any news of Consequence I have desired Gov^r^ Morris to communicate it to me by an Express & I shall take Care to forward it to y^r^ Honour & should any Vessel arrive in Virg^a^ & bring Lett^rs^ for me from Europe or News of Importance I shall think myself extremely obliged to you for dispatching a special Messenger therewith to S^r^ &c.

Original. [Robert Sterling to Sharpe.]

Kent County Goal March 21^st^ 1756

Hon^d^ Sir

In Consequence of Fresh and positive Orders which I receiv'd by an Express last Thursday, I have Inlisted Some Servants, and am now in Confinement for it. My Orders are to apply to your Excellency in Such a Case and hope you will fall on some measures for my Enlargement, as the Service has already Suffer'd by my Confinement.

I am with the greatest respect
Your Excellencies most devoted humble servant
Robert Sterling

Original. [Sharpe to Dorsey.]

The Governor's Compliments to Mr. Dorsey, & shall be much obliged to him for his Opinion on and Answers to the following Questions—

Whether a Servant indented bonâ fide has a right to enlist in His Majestys Service?

Whether a Military Officer enlisting Such Servant knowing or not knowing him to be such is in either and which Case liable to an Action?

Whether the Governor as Governor can discharge such Action?

Annapolis March 22, 1756

Original. [Dorsey to Sharpe.]

Queries

as to the 1^st^ I am of Opinion that a Master has a Property in the Labour of his Indented Servant for the time he has con-

tracted to Serve, and that he has no Right to enlist in his Majestys Service without his Masters Consent, untill the Expiration of his time of Servitude

as to the 2[d] I am of Opinion that a Recruiting Officer who enlists a Mans indented Servant knowing him to be such, is liable to the Action of the Master, and that he Ought to recover Damages adequate to the injury he sustains by the loss of his Servant, but if an Officer should enlist a Servant not knowing him to be such I think no Action will lye against him, unless he should detain the Servant from his Master, after he is informed of his being a Servant, In which case I think an Action would lye against him.

as to the 3[d] I am of Opinion that the Governor cannot discharge any Civil Action commenced by a Man for the Recovery of his Property, and such is an Action commenced by a Master ag[t] an Officer for taking his Servant out of his Service

W. Dorsey

22[d] March 1756

[Sharpe to Morris.] Letter Bk. II. p. 182

22[d] March.

S[r]

I am sorry to find by Your's from Newcastle that the Pensilvania Assembly have broke up with[t] granting any farther Supplies, however I am not without hopes that at the End of p. 183 the fortnight for which they have adjourned they will meet disposed & determined to do more than you seem to expect. The framing a Bill in consequence of the Vote I before mentioned to you has employed our people near a month, it has not yet made it's appearance but I am told that due Care has been taken to insert many Clauses that will lay the Upper House as well as myself under a necessity of refusing it. Governor Dinwiddie seems I think to entertain but faint hopes of succeeding better with the Virginians who are to meet next Friday so that I despair of seeing any thing done by these Southern Colonies this Summer or untill the Legislature of G Britain shall take our Condition under Consideration & save our respective Assemblies the Trouble of providing for their own Safety I have writ to General Shirley to this purpose & intimated to him that the Commission & Instructions he was pleased to honour me with will but little contribute to the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne if there are no Troops for me to take the Command of, No Money to raise & support any, No Arms for them if they were raised & No Artillery, Ammunition or Provisions.—Pray how did the Assembly behave on the Receipt of the General's Lett[r] & Observations upon their

Letter Bk. II. Address respecting the Enlistment of Servants. Our people are with Difficulty hindered from committing violence on such Occasions. One of the Officers was two Days ago arrested & taken into Custody for entertaining Servants; as soon as I was advised thereof I ordered the Sheriff to let him have his Liberty upon his giving his parole not to leave the Province till the Sheriff should be indemnified for releasing him, & having advised with the Council thereon I shall agreeable to their Advice order the Attorney Gen^{l} to defend the Young Gent^{n} who I am afraid has proceeded a little farther than the Gen^{l} intended upon a Supposition that I should be able to support him. I am much obliged to you for your promise to forward any Lett^{rs} that may come directed for me by the Packett & am

S^{r}—

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

23^{d} March 1756. Annapolis

S^{r}

I delay a Gent^{n} who is passing thro this place towards Boston to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 5th Inst by Col^{o} Washington who is just arrived here in his Way to Virginia. I have not time to answer particularly that part of your Letter which relates to the Dispute between the Virginia Field Officers & Capt Dagworthy. The Letter I writ to the latter from New York on that Subject would I apprehend have prevented any uneasiness between Colonel Washington & him had the Colonel went to Fort Cumberland since that time. however I conceive all possibility of Dispute must be now removed by the Orders that I sent Capt Dagworthy some time ago to leave that place & come down among the Frontier Inhabitants. Information was given me yesterday that one M^{r} Sterling a Lieutenant in his Majesty's 48th Regiment was a few Days since arrested in this Province on an Action for Tresspass for entertaining Indented Servants, as soon as I received such Information I communicated it to the Council who as it was a Civil Action for Damages, which I could not as Governor discharge, advised me to recommend it to the Young Gentl^{n} to give Bail & then to order the Attorney Gen^{l} to defend before the Iudges of Assize his Proceedings under your Orders. Agreeable to this Advice I have writ to M^{r} Sterling to give Bail for his Appearance at the Court & to send me a true State of his Case that I may lay it before the Attorney Gen^{l} & order him to prepare for making his Defence. I presume M^{r} Sterling has not neglected to advise you or his Superiour Officer of his Situation & I shall be glad to know

what Steps you would choose to have taken in case Iudgment Letter Bk. III
should be given for the Plantiff. Inclosed is a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie, he tells me that all the Field Pieces that were in that Dominion Your Excellency has ordered to New York, that he has but very few small Arms not sufficient for the Virginia Troops, that the Officers of Col° Washington's Regiment have not yet been able to raise 600 Men & that he is much afraid his Assembly which is to meet about this time will not grant such Supplies as your Excellency expects, or even as will be required for making a Diversion to the Westward. The Assembly of Pensilvania has I hear broke up without doing any thing & I begin to despair of any Success with ours which has been now sitting more than a Month without any Supply Bill's making it's Appearance; At this time they are employing themselves in preparing a Remonstrance against the Proceedings of the military Officers in Enlisting their Servants upon which Subject I expect to be addressed & shall be glad if their Resentment does not lead them to insert such Clauses in the Supply Bill that is framing as will lay the Upper House or myself under a necessity of refusing it. Governor Dinwiddie says he has reason to expect the Commissioners that are gone to the Cherokee & Catawba Nations will engage a very considerable Body of those Indians to be at Fort Cumberland this Spring to act in Conjunction with such English Forces as should be raised in these Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward. He says you mentioned that these People were to be allowed British pay but as you did not tell him how or from what Fund they were to be paid he desires me to ask that question; I presume Your Excellency expects that these Colonies would take that Expence on themselves, but as Governor Dinwiddie desires your answer on that Article I shall be glad to be favoured therewith, & also to know if your Excellency could furnish us with any number of small Arms, in case Troops should be raised here, for I beleive we have not more than 300 or 400 Stand at most in this province. I am &c—

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 188

Dated the 27th March

My Lord

Upon the Receipt of your Lordships Instructions dated the 22d of August & Colo. Taskers Acceptance of Mr Calvert's Deputation to him as Secretary I appointed Mr Bordley to succeed Mr Tasker as Naval Officer of this Port & Mr Darnall as your Ldp's Attorney Genl At the same time I communicated to Mr Darnal the part of Your Ldp's Instructions that

Letter Bk. I. related to him, in answer to which I received the inclosed Lett I gave Col° Lloyd in writing a Power & Order to dismiss M^r^ Edw^d^ Tilghman from your Ldp's Service as soon as he had setled Accounts with him, & taken out of his hands all Books & papers that relate to your Ldp's Rents of which M^r^ Tilghman had the possession. When Colonel Lloyd advises me of M^r^ Tilghman's Dismissal I shall unless I can be first honoured with your Ldp's further Instructions thereon appoint either M^r^ W^m^ Goldsborough or Col° Henry to keep the Eastern Shore Rent Roll, Col° Lloyd having absolutely refused to accept it in
p. 189 lieu of that for the Western Shore, & as M^r^ Darnal will accept neither but chooses to hold the Naval Office of Potuxent I could not bestow any such Post on M^r^ Thomas as your Ldp directed in those Instructions & as M^r^ Tasker does not choose to have a Copartner in the Comissary's Office I cannot make M^r^ Thomas Joint Commissary as I thought I might agreeable to your Ldp's Instructions of the 9^th^ Sept^r^ Your Ldp was also pleased to order me to appoint M^r^ Young to the Naval Office of Pocomoke, to be Surveyor Gen of the Eastern Shore & a Member of your Ldp's Council: in making him Naval Officer of Pocomoke & Surveyor Gen^l^ of the Eastern Shore I had anticipated y^r^ Ldp's Commands & had moreover given him the Nomination to the Sheveralty of Calvert County whence he receives £50 St^g^ a year. Out of my own Desire to serve M^r^ Young who is become related to your Ldp as well as in Obedience to your Ldp's Instructions, on his saying that he would rather have one lucrative Employment than his present Offices I assured him that in any thing consistent with your Ldp's Interest He should find me most ready to gratify his hopes & Expectations. He thereupon told me that if the Clerkship of Kent County should become vacant & I would order the D Secretary to appoint him thereto he should think himself well provided for. I answered that I should be glad to have it in my power to give him a Clerkship & would make his Request known to M^r^ Calvert, but observed to him that if he was to accept such a place he would be in some sort disqualified to be of your Ldp's Council as there seemed to be an Impropriety in a Gentleman's being such a Ministerial
p. 190 Officer as a County Clerk is & at the same time being a Member of a superiour Branch of the Legislature; to w^ch^ Honour or Dignity I indeed advised him for the present to wave his Pretensions & told him that by doing so he would in my Opinion seem to consult your Ldp's Interest; Upon a Consciousness that the superiour Qualifications of the Gent^n^ whose Names I have taken the Liberty to mention to your Ldp might in the present Situation of Affairs & State of the Council be more serviceable than he could hope to be he seemed to

acquiesce & said he would consider on what had been the Letter Bk. I.
Subject & purport of our Conversation. As he is lately removed hither I have since had an Opportunity of conversing on this Subject with Mrs Young who does not seem much inclined to consent to her Husband's waving his Right to a Seat at the Council, tho as She is desirous of his having a lucritive Employment as well as Honour she joins with him in asking a good Clerkship but as none may possibly become vacant for some time she hopes your Ldp will not be averse to appointing him in the interim Keeper of the Western Shore Rent-Roll as that being already perfect may be properly kept without any great Difficulty or Skill. Your Ldp will do therein as you may judge best, but if the Naval Office of Potuxent was vacant I think that would be more desirable than either the Rent Roll or a Clerkship & would not disqualify him for being Councillor if your Ldp should choose to distinguish him by that Title. Inclosed I send your Ldp a Copy of my Speech to the Assembly at the Opening of this Session with the Addresses of both Houses in Answer: the Burgesses have voted £40000 for His Majesty's Service, & their Committee have been ever since framing a Bill in consequence of such Vote, so we have been now met five weeks without doing any thing, it is said p. 191
the Bill will be brought into the House the Beginning of next week but as I hear they have therein inserted a Clause subjecting your Ldp's Mannours to the payment of a Land Tax which is one of the Funds, I do not entertain very sanguine hopes of their doing the Business for which I convened them in such a manner as Common Sense should dictate & their Constituents desire. Governor Morris informs me that His Assembly sat a Month without coming to any Determination or Resolution & then adjourned themselves for a fort-night, he does not seem to expect any thing from them at their Meeting on such Adjournment; & Governor Dinwiddie's Expectations from his Assembly (which is also met) appear I think to be less warm than usual. General Shirley has been pleased since the Assembly met to send me a Commission & Instructions to take the Command of all the Troops that may be raised in these Southern Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward, I have thanked the General for his intended Favour, but as Affairs are at present situated I have forbid him to expect my doing any thing, & intimated to him that while Men, Money, Arms, Ammunition, the smallest Train, Provisions & Credit are wanting his Commission will not much contribute to the Reduction of the French Fort or the Security of our own Frontiers: in truth my Ld the Condition of these Colonies is deplorable, The Enemy see us inactive & naturally hold us in Contempt, the Success the Indians have met with encourages them to

Letter Bk. I. pursue their Victory & the timorous Inhabitants desert their plantations & fly from Danger as it approaches those that are more remote from it either pity the Frontier Inhabitants or condemn their Cowardice but not a Man will move to their Assistance or to oppose the Enemy. The Eastern Colonies
p. 192 have indeed shewn a laudable Spirit, they are raising a Body of 8000 or 9000 Men who will march toward Crown Point under the Command of Col° Winsloe while the four Regiments on the Establishment are employed to the Westward. What will be the Event of this Campaign I cannot guess, the French I am afraid will be found pretty strong on the Lakes especially as the want of a Martial Spirit in these Colonies will prevent any Diversion to the Southwestward w^ch^ would necessarily oblige the Enemy to divide their Forces. Inclosed I send your Ldp a Return of the Number of Inhabitants in your Lordsp's Province whereby y^r^ Ldp will see what proportion those of the several Denominations bear to each other. I am honoured w^th^ y^r^ Ldp's Commands concerning some Maryland Partridges which are called Quails in the Northern Colonies I have ordered a number of them to be caught & hope I shall have them to send by the next Ship that sails for London I &c

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

March 1756 transmitted by Capt Merry from Potowmack.

S^r^

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lett^r^ dated the 24^th^ Oct^r^ the Vessel by which it was sent had a remarkable long passage, so that it did not come to hand till a few Days since. Mine dated the 5^th^ Ian^y^ informed you that our Assembly was to meet the 20^th^ of last Month; there was not a House till the 23^d^ ever since which time they have been sitting without having brought a Supply Bill into the House in Consequence of a Vote for granting £40,000. By the Bill that is framing £30000 of that Sum is to be struck in Bills of
p. 193 Credit to be sunk within 7 or 8 years, by a Land Tax, Excise on Spirituous Liquors, a Stamp Duty, & some other Fund of less Value or Importance; they propose I hear to subject His Ldp's Mannours to the Payment of the Land Tax, w^ch^ will lay me under a Necessity of refusing the Bill & perhaps of putting an End to this as I have done to former Sessions, & shall I am afraid to all future Ones unless the Legislature of Great Britain will take the Condition of these Colonies under Consideration & save the respective Assemblies the Trouble of providing for their own Safety. The Assembly of Pensilvania

sat a Month with[t] doing any thing & have adjourned themselves for a Fortnight. The Virg[a] Assembly is also sitting & I am afraid to as little purpose. This being our Situation I leave you to judge what must be our Prospect; the Enemy encrease & destroy our timorous Inhabitants with Impunity, those that are more remote from Danger content themselves with pitying such as are exposed, or perhaps condemn them for Cowardice, but will not move to their Assistance, or unless they can at the same time gratify their own Passions send them the least Support. Was I writing to a Person who had not been conversant with or read the Iournals of our Assemblie's Proceedings I should be afraid that such an Account might lead him to suspect my Veracity, as it would be natural for him to argue from the palpable Absurdity of what I say with respect to the Behaviour of our People or rather their Representatives that such Conduct is inconceiveable & impossible, but to you who must have learnt from Experience that we reason very differently in these parts of His Majesty's Dominions from what his Subjects in Great Britain are apt to do, our Proceedings at this time of the most imminent Danger cannot be very strange or surprizing. The Beginning of this Month I received in a Lett[r] from General Shirley a Commission & Instructions to take the Command of all the Forces that shall be raised in these Southern Colonies & with them make another Attempt on Fort Du Quesne, at least cause a Diversion to prevent the Enemie's Reinforcing their Garrisons to the Northw[d] from their Forts & Settlements on the Ohio. Had His Excellency sent me Money to raise & support the Men that he bids me take the Command of, & instead of ordering what Field Pieces there were in Virg[a] round to N York have sent hither a Train of Artillery & a sufficient Number of small Arms & Ammunition (of which these Colonies are in great want; I should have entertained some hopes of being able effectually to secure these Colonies at least; but without Men or Money, Provisions, Arms, Ammunition or Credit, I cannot think the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne this summer will be easily effected. Inclosed is a Copy of my Speech to the Assembly at the Opening of this Session with the Addresses of both Houses & my Answers, in one of which you see I told the Burgesses I concluded they would act like rational Creatures & honest Men or to that effect, but I begin to fear that their Actions will shew that I did not know my Men, or that I said rather more than I beleived. I cannot learn that any Lett[rs] have been received from Europe since those dated in Nov[r] The second Packett is not arrived so that we are entirely ignorant what Measures are taking at home, or whether a Rupture between the two Nations is absolutely

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unavoidable. General Shirley it is said will shortly proceed to Oswego with the four Regiments, & we are told that the Eastern Colonies will furnish 8000 or 9000 Men for another Expedition towards Crown Point, of these Provincials Col° Winsloe of Massachusett's Bay is to have the Chief & S^r^ W^m^ Iohnson the second Command. The Garland Man of War stationed in Virg^a^ has been on a Cruize & brought in three Prizes, one of which is said to be of considerable Value—

At the Bottom of a Duplicate of the foregoing Lett^r^ was writ the follow^g^

April the 17^th^ 1756.

S^r^

A Gentleman calling on me to know if I had any Commands to Biddeford for which place he is departing I embrace the Opportunity to inform you that the preceeding Lett^r^ describes to you our present Situation the End of last Week the Lower House sent to the Upper the Supply Bill to which many Objections have been made & sent down with a Message, I beleive the Objections cannot be overcome & am afraid I must entirely despair of seeing any Troops raised in this Province even for our own Protection I am &c—

Original.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Boston March 29. 1756.

Sir.

Upon second thoughts, I would not give your Honour the trouble of having my answer to the address of the Assembly of Pensilvania printed in your Province, and desire it may not be done.

My other letter was gone to the post, w^ch^ is the reason of my troubling your Honour with this

I am
Sir
Your most faithfull
Humble Servant
W Shirley.

Hon^ble^ Horatio Sharpe
Esq^r^

Liber J. R. & U. S. p. 92

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Annapolis March 30^th^ 1756.

S^r^

I send this to acquaint you with an unhappy Affair that I am told has lately happened at the Mouth of Conegocheige

within this Province, I have my Information only from Report, Liber J. R. & U. S.
but by what I can learn there was a Party of Colonel Washingtons Regiment posted somewhere in Virginia opposite the Place above mentioned; Lieutenant Gordon who commanded it, on some Account or other came over into Maryland, and falling into a Fray of which I cannot learn any thing particular, was killed by an Inhabitant of this Province who was thereupon apprehended, but through the Ignorance of a County Justice was soon after admitted to Bail. As soon as I was advised thereof, I ordered a Provincial Warrant to be instantly issued requiring the Sheriff of Frederick County where the Fact was committed to take the Offender into Custody, and carry him before a Provincial Magistrate to be dealt with according to Law, and to take his trial, at the next Assize's for the County which Will be held at Frederick Town the fifth of May next, when the Attorny General will be sent up to prosecute, you will therefore be pleased to direct the surviving Officer of the above mentioned Party to order such Soldiers, or other Inhabitants of Virginia, as may have been Witnesses to this unhappy Accident, to attend at the Assizes and give their Evidence. In case such Witnesses should be afraid of being molested (of which I think they have not the least Reason to be apprehensive) they shall on the Officer's making Application either to the Court or myself have a Protection; which your Honour will be pleased to signify to him, that whatever might be the Issue of the Trial, there may not be the least Room given any Person whatever to insinuate hereafter, that every Step was not taken to bring the Criminal to condign Punishment. Your Honor will I hope be perswaded that every Measure shall be taken by this Government that is agreeable to Law, and Justice, and believe that I am

With great Regard
S^r^ Your most humble & m^t^ obed^t^ Serv^t^
Hor: Sharpe

To
Governor Dinwiddie.

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.] Letter Bk. III

2^d^ of April 1756.

D^r^ B^r^

Your two Lett^rs^ dated the 7^th^ & 16^th^ of Oct^r^ I had a few Days since the pleasure to receive & embrace this first Opportunity of making my Acknowledgments for them & returning you my sincere thanks for the several Instances of your Kindness & Friendship therein hinted at. I rejoice that you was

Letter Bk. III enabled & took such Steps to confute a Report which was entirely groundless & might have been very prejudicial to my Interest: The inclosed Copy of my Letter to Governor Dinwiddie on my Return from Fort Cumberland will support what I writ to you about the same time & will shew I presume that Colonel Dunbar never consulted any of us on the propriety of marching the Regiments to Phil[a] immediately after the Action & leaving the Frontiers of these provinces exposed, had he asked my Opinion thereon He would not I assure you have obtained my Consent for I thought then as I do now that there was a wide Difference between marching such an Army as his was then to attack Fort Du Quesne without Artillery or other Stores, & remaining on the Defensive at Fort Cumberland or any other advanced post between that & the Ohio; The last in my Opinion would have been proper & a very prudent Step but the first the Height of Quixiotism. As the Assembly of Pensilvania did not grant any Supplies upon the General's Defeat, I never met our Assembly on that Event but contented myself with laying out the little money that was in my hands in the best manner to secure our back Inhabitants from the Barbarities which have been severely felt by those of the Neighbouring Colonies & declined calling the Assembly till I could lay some Scheme or Plan of Operations before them, & till I should see their Neighbours set them a laudable Example. When they met the 23[d] of Feb[y] I recommended it to them to contribute to the Execution of the Plan that was concerted at N York which they have now had under Consideration 6 Weeks without being able to frame or perfect a Bill which the Committee was ordered to prepare upon their passing a Vote for £40000. It will make its Appearance I am told next week but by what I can find in such a Dress as will lay the Upper House or Myself under a Necessity of refusing it: Should this be it's Fate & the Virg[a] Assembly break up as that of Pensilvania has done without granting any Supplies as I have some reason to fear it will, I leave you to judge whether I have not a very fair Prospect of being able to reduce Fort Du Quesne this Summer as I am directed by General Shirley to do with the Forces that these Colonies shall raise for that purpose. I inclose you a Copy of the General's Letter which I received with the Commission & Instructions & also my Answer thereto since the writing of which my Hopes have daily diminished & I begin to think that I ought not to be sorry at His Excellency's having ordered all the Field Pieces that were in these parts round from Virg[a] to N York; May he use them with greater Success than I could hope to do here tho I dare not be very sanguine even in such hopes so much is the Face of Affairs in America altered within this twelve month—

[Sharpe to Shirley.] Letter Bk. III

10th of April 1756—

Sr

The inclosed Letter I am desired to forward to yr Exllency from Colo Washington & to request you to commissionate & appoint him Second in Command in case these Colonies shall raise a sufficient Number of Troops for carrying on an Expedition or making a Diversion to the Westward this Summer; As Mr Washington is much esteemed in Virginia & really seems a Gentln of Merit I should be exceedingly glad to learn that your Excellency is not averse to favouring his Application & Request. The Assembly of this province is still sitting but no Supply Bill is yet passed & I hear that the Virginians have not yet come to any Resolution to grant such Supplies as you have recommended to them & required. If I shall have any prospect of being enabled to do any thing this Summer in pursuance of the Commission with which you have been pleased to honour me I must beg the favour of your Excellency to give me an Order for all His Majesty's Stores of any kind that I can find or discover in Virga or this province lest the Persons in whose Custody they were left last year may not think my Receipt or Order alone for them a sufficient Indemnification I am &c.

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

14th of April 1756—

Sr

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lettr dated at Boston the 28th Ult. but am sorry that the measures taken by the Assembly of this Province & the Delay of those of the two neighbouring Colonies to grant any Supplies obliges me to acquaint your Excellency that I have now very little hopes of seeing such a Number of Men raised by them this Summer as would be able to carry your Excellency's Scheme for the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne into Execution; By a Return made me by the Lieutt Colonel of the Virga Regiment the 22d of March I find that it does not exceed 440 Men. Capt Dagworthy's Company of fifty that has been kept up by this Province the Assembly will lay me under a Necessity of disbanding unless you will choose to take upon yourself to support it during the Campaign or order them to N York & take them into the Regiments under your own Command. I cannot find that the Commissioners who went from Virga to the Cherokees are yet returned or have been lately heard of;

Letter Bk. III neither have We any Account from Major Lewis who marched so long since with a Party of Cherokees & some of the Virg[a] Rangers to attack one of the Shawanese Towns. Perhaps when the Virg[a] & N. Carolina Troops shall join they may make a Body of about 800 effective Men; as the Communication between Fort Cumberland & our Westernmost Settlements has been for some time cut off & the Country laid waste for 60 miles on this Side the Fort (the Inhabitants instead of uniting & meeting the Enemy flying from Danger as it approaches & deserting their Habitations on every the least Alarm) Part of those 800 must be left at Fort Cumberland to garrison that place, & with the Remainder I am ready to march whereever your Excellency shall think proper to order me or his Majesty's Service shall in your Opinion require. As the North Carolina Forces will expect to be supplied with Provision as they were the last & preceeding Summer I will if Your Excellency thinks fit to impower me take Care to have them supplied therewith & draw on whomsoever Your Excellency shall be pleased to direct for payment, as I shall also be obliged to do for Money to defray the Expence of all the Carriage as well by Water as Land. Tho I cannot entertain very sanguine hopes of being able to get to Fort Du Quesne yet as it is not absolutely certain that these Colonies will determine to continue inactive the whole Summer I should be glad if Your Excellency could send a Howitzer or Mortar or two & some Shells for them which perhaps tho no Field-Pieces can be spared you will be able to order from some of the Northern Govern[ts] & as no Attempt can be made on a Fort with any probability of Success without something of this Sort I take the Liberty to request your Excellency if it be in your power to favour us so far. Your Excellency directs or recommends it to me to march about 1000 light-armed Troops with some Indians immediately to blockade or invest Fort Du Quesne & prevent the Garrison's being reinforced or receiving any Supplies of Provisions; I have already intimated that no Indians have yet joined the Troops, & have also informed you how far the Forces under my Command fall short of the Number that your Excellency desires may be detached on such Service: for my own part I do not apprehend that the Garrison at Fort Du Quesne is at this time in want of Provisions, for was that the Case they may easily have supplied themselves from our Frontiers, & I am apt to think that instead of killing the Cattle in the Fields & burning all the Grain in our Barns they & their Indian Allies who have committed such Devastations would have driven off the first to the Ohio alive & loaded with Corn the Numbers of Horses which We know they have taken from our Settlements to the Westward. how strong the

French are at Fort Du Quesne I have not heard but if they learn that we are making no preparations for another Expedition that Way as no doubt they will from the Captives they are daily making I presume they will detach as many Men as they can possibly spare to reinforce their Garrisons on the Lakes; & I am confirmed in this Opinion by the Instructions that were found in the pockett of an Ensign who was lately killed by some of the Inhabitants of Virg[a] near Conegochiegh. I am persuaded that if the Assembly would have been prevailed on to provide for their Subsistance a considerable Number of the Inhabitants of Maryland would have been inclined to make a Campaign with me, but as I have now no farther hopes from that Quarter, unless your Excellency should find yourself impowered & think proper to direct & authorize me to raise & subsist 500 or 600 Men during the Summer I must give over all thoughts of getting any Troops from this Province, & have nothing more to do than in Obedience to your Excellency's Orders to put Myself at the head of the Virg[a] & N Carolina Forces when they join & proceed as you shall command either to secure the Frontiers of these provinces or advance towards the Enemy. I am &c— Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Morris.]

April the 24[th] 1756

S[r]

M[r] Lunen of Phil[a] calling on me on His Return from Virg[a] I embrace the Opportunity to intimate to you that our Assembly is still sitting but as the Lower House seem to be absolutely determined to grant no Supplies unless they can at the same time carry certain points which manifestly tend to subvert in a great measure the Constitution & render it more similar to that of Pensilvania which I beleive you do not think the most perfect, I expect to find myself under a necessity of proroguing them in three or four Days—I am informed by a Lett[r] from Alexandria that a Ship which left England the 12[th] of Feb[y] & arrived at Hampton the 16[th] Inst. brings Advice that War was declared in England two Days before She sailed & that Lord Loudon & Col[o] Abercrombie with three Regiments were coming hither—The Indians have lately done a good deal of Mischief on the Frontiers of Virg[a] the Forts that were some time since built there for the Protection of the Back-Inhabitants have been many of them attacked & some reduced & destroyed & a Detachment from the Virg[a] Regiment of 50 Men commanded by Capt Mercier has been defeated near Cape Capon about 18 miles from Winchester, the Captain, Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants & 15 private Men were killed or wounded & left to the Enemy—

Original.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Hartford in Connecticutt April 24th 1756.

Sir

In your last, you mention'd that you was in want of small Arms.

I am now upon my Iourney to New York, and have only time to inform your Honour that the 10,000 stands of Arms, & proportion of Ammunition sent by his Majesty to Boston for the use of the Colonies, according to the Discretion of the Commander in Chief of his Forces in North America, are now arriv'd, & are under the Care of the Comptroller of Ordnance settled by the Board at that place.

Of these Arms I have order'd the Comptroller to deliver 300 Stands with a proper proportion of Ammunition to any person, who shall be authoriz'd by your Honour's Government to receive and indent for the same on the behalf of the Province; vizt to return the Arms at the End of the present Service, for wch they are lent to the Province, into his Majesty's Stores at Boston, pursuant to the Directions of the Board of Ordnance there to be kept by their Officers, as a Magazine for the use of the Colonies, which shall want them.

The Rule, I have observ'd in the present Distribution of these Arms, with respect to my own & all the other Governments, except Virginia & Connecticutt, is to deliver to each of them Arms for four sevenths of the Men, they now raise: I am oblig'd to furnish his Majesty's four Regiments of Regulars immediately with 1200 Stands; and the 10,000 stands will hold out for no larger a proportion, leaving only 800 stands in the Stores for Extraordinary Contingencies; you will be pleas'd, Sir, in case your Government shall raise 500 Men for the Expedition to send for the Arms, when you think proper, to Mr Turner Comptroller of his Majesty's Ordnance at Boston.

Inclos'd is a Copy of the Vote of the Massachusetts Assembly upon this Occasion, which your Honour may follow so far as you like it.

Wishing you Success in all your undertakings for the present Service, I am with great Regard & Esteem—

Sir

Your Honour's most Humble,
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley.

Honble Horatio Sharpe Esqr

[S^{t} Clair to Sharpe.] Original.

Albany April the 28th 1756.

Sir

I have just now received your Excellencys Letter of the 6th for which I return you my most hearty thanks, I shall do every thing in my power to obey your Commands in serving M^{r} Makay but my Interest and Influence with our Commanding Gen^{l} diminishes daily; in so much that I am the only person in the Army who has nothing to do. I have requested of His Excellency (seeing he has no use for me) to order me home, but that cannot be granted.

I assure you that no trouble or pains shou'd be wanting to give you an account of our situation: All I can say that our Affairs to me have an Evil Aspect, and in place of anoying the Enemy, I wish we may be able to hinder them from anoying us. It is impossible for me to relate facts to you as they are differently reported from the same people, so that what I see I can write but nothing else. I am not even able to tell you the strength of the two American Regiments nor to guess at thier numbers within one thousand. The 2 British Battallions want about 400 of which they may receive 100 in Recruits in a few Days. The Independent Companys have got about half way up to their Establishment. As to our taking the field that must intirely depend on the Military Knowledge and activity of Lieu^{t} Colonel Bradstreet, he has got the direction of the whole, by a Special Commission and ample Instructions. I wish he may not lead us astray he and Gen^{l} Shirley I suppose understand one another, I understand neither.

A Detach^{t} of 70 Men march to morrow from hence to fort William Henry, the Garrison of that fort and fort Edward are in great distress, but when they are relieved they may give it out that their Distress was not real.

I give you Joy with all my heart of your Command, you have it in your power of gaining more Honour by defending your Province, than the ablest General can have in our parts, in acting against the Common Enemy. I am not able to comply with your Request with regard to M^{c}Kellar I shall write to him about it, he is gone towards Oswego but I have not heard of him since the latter End of last Month.

M^{c}Clean the Commissary of Fort Cumberland who arrived here two Days ago tells me that he delivered over to Com^{y} Walker 12 Doz^{n} of Wine & 4 Casks of Rum of Col^{o} Innes. As all that Rum & wine was originaly yours I know no one has a better right to it than you have I cannot say that it all belongs to me, but I may venture to make you sure you will be welcome to it tho' part of it may belong to Iames Innes

Gordon the Engenier is here and desires his Compliments to you. I wish you all the Success you can desire and more satisfaction than I ever can hope for in America. I am with the greatest Regard

Your Excellencys
Most obedient and most
humble Servant
John S^{t} Clair

To His Excellency Gov^{r} Sharpe.

Original.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg May [24] 1756

Sir

Yours of the 10th I received. The Enemy that invaded our Frontiers & did so much Mischief are returned over the Allegany Mountains, whether to reinforce to return to plunder & murder our People is uncertain; but I am much of Opinion with you that without assistance from Home we shall cut but a bad Figure against the Enemy.

I am sorry the Pensylvanians are not more resolute in granting Supplies, and the Dillatoriness of your Assembly is surprizing, when the Time for Action will be greatly over before they grant Supplies.

We have a Volunteer Association of the Gent^{n} in this Province they have marched to the number of 200 to our Frontiers, it will be of Service in annimating the lower Class of our People, tho' I think they will meet with no Enemy.

By Vote of Assembly we are making Draughts from the Militia to augment our Regiment to 1500 Private Men, but unless the neighbouring Colonies join them with a proper Number, what can be done? Indeed for want of Artillery & Ingineers no Attempt can be made against their Fort on the Ohio; so that I think they can only remain to protect our Frontiers

By Col^{o} Ludwell we have represented our present situation to the Earl of Loudon (who we think may be at New York by this Time) and desire his Advice & Assistance. Our Assembly has voted 35000 more for the Service, but this is only keeping the Expedition alive, while our Neighbours appear to be wrapt up in supine Inactivity I am sorry you cannot order Your Militia out on any Extremity; & I shall be glad to know what your Assembly has done after so long a Session.

The same News we have here in regard to Lord Loudon & the Forces he is to bring with him, & that he is appointed Chief Governor of this Dominion in the room of Lord Albemarle.

I am of Opinion the French will reinforce Fort Du Quesne from New Orleans &c on the Mississippi; it's true its a long March, but what will they not do to accomplish the Plan they have so many Years been forming, & if that should be the Case these Colonies will be much distressed this Sum̄er; I can only continue to do every Thing in my Power to protect our Front^{s} in order thereto we propose building Forts from North to South of this Colony; I must remain in this Situat^{n} till I hear from N York.

The Treaty with Catawbas & Cherokees is at the Press, as soon as printed shall send you a Copy

I remain
Your Excellency's
Most hble Servant
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Governor Sharpe

[Sharpe to W. Sharpe.] Letter Bk. III

2^{d} of May 1756—

D^{r} B^{r}

Inclosed you have a Duplicate of my last to B^{r} Iohn, this will be directed to yourself as I am just favoured with your two Lett^{rs} dated the 10th of Ian^{y} & 19th Feb^{y} & as I apprehend it makes no difference whether what I write for you both be addressed to yourself or him. That I do not always send my Friends in England as early Advice of every material Occurrence in America as Gent^{n} who reside in other parts of the Continent may possibly do is in great Measure owing to my want of Opportunities of transmitting Letters by the Maryland Ships which are comparatively but few & generally leave us all at one Season; & I cannot get Letters conveyed to & put on board Vessels that sail from other Provinces but at a very considerable Expence as you will judge when I inform you that I have been obliged to pay for Expresses & Letters that I sent or received on His Majesty's Service this last year more than £120 St^{g} which the Assembly are averse & scruple to repay me, arguing it should be done by the Fines & Forfeitures arising & appropriated by Acts of Assembly for the Support of Govern^{t} & I know what answer I should be favoured with was I to represent my Case to M^{r} Calvert & intimate a Desire of being reimbursed by His Lordship: however you may be assured that when any thing of Importance does happen I will not make an Apology of this Sort for not sending you the most early Intelligence—What you say of your having seen a Copy of a Resolution of a Council of War called by Col^{o} Dun-

Letter Bk. III bar at Fort Cumberland to consider of the Expediency of his leaving that place & marching the two Regiments to Phil[a] does not a little surprize me because I am confident that I never advised him to take that Step & that I never subscribed such an Opinion as you mention. Col[o] Dunbar had determined to retire from Fort Cumberland & proceed to Phil[a] before I saw him, indeed I was advised thereof several Days before I got to the Camp & had scarcely any thoughts of finding him there at my Arrival, I have been told that immediately on his Return to Fort Cumberland after the Action he sent to Capt Orme to know how the General intended to have disposed of the Troops if he had lived, & that on Capt Orme's answering he would have left the Provincials at the Fort & marched the Regulars to Pens[a] for Winter-Quarters, the Colonel declared that he would do the same & instantly give Orders for the Troops to hold themselves in Readiness to march, whether this was true I cannot say but I well remember & so do those that were with me that as soon as I reached the Camp & waited on Col[o] Dunbar he informed me that he had determined to march from Fort Cumberland & that he hoped to be in Phil[a] within a few Weeks. During my Stay at the Fort he received a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie wherein he was urged in very strong Terms to march & recover the Cannon & Stores that had fallen into the Enemy's hands & to attempt again the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne. The next morning by his Desire I met Col[o] Gage & S[r] Iohn S[t] Clair at his Tent & when he asked us "Whether we thought it was advisable & for his Majesty's Service that he should immediately proceed to Fort Du Quesne" I as well as the other Gent[n] answered in the Negative & I am apt to beleive that after reading the inclosed Copy of my Letter to Governor Dinwiddie you will not think We gave an improper Answer. As I presume Col[o] Dunbar will be questioned on his Return to England & asked what Motives induced him to leave Fort Cumberland I doubt not but he will do all the Gent[n] that he desired to attend the Council which he called there, the Justice to acknowledge that he never asked their Opinion about marching the Regiments to Phil[a] I am convinced that they all disapproved of that Step & that if he had thought proper to have consulted them thereon they would have unanimously advised him against it. Upon Dunbar's expressing (after the Council) a good deal of Astonishment & some Resentment at a Paragraph of Governor Dinwiddie's Lett[r] wherein he had intimated that the Colonel ought to have advised the several Governors on the Continent of the General's ill Success & of his own Intentions & Resolutions thereon I could not help observing that as to that I thought Governor Dinwiddie's Expectations were not at all unreasonable as General Braddock

had been particularly instructed to keep up a constant Corres- Letter Bk. III
pondence with us all & my Friend S^r^ Iohn joined me in representing to him the ill Consequence that might attend his marching so suddenly from Fort Cumberland without advising the Neighbouring Governors thereof, for my own part I said I had not waited for a Lett^r^ from him tho I should have esteemed his Writing as a Favour but as I had learnt before I came thither that he had left or was about to leave the Frontiers I had taken some & should on my Return towards Annapolis take more effectual Measures for the Safety of the People under my Care, & that no doubt Governor Dinwiddie & M^r^ Morris would have done the same had they been advised or if they should accidentally hear of the Step which he was about to take. Soon after I left the Camp he begun his March but had not proceeded far before Col^o^ Innes (whom General Braddock had appointed Governor of Fort Cumberland) sent after him desiring a Reinforcement, the Provincial Troops that were left being not supposed a sufficient Garrison for the Defence of the Fort; the Lett^r^ was writ with great freedom & the Penman did not seem to have considered what phrases would be most agreeable to the Gentlemen to whom t'was addressed the Colonel I beleive took no notice of it but continued his March & soon afterwards received General Shirley's Orders to proceed to Albany with all possible Expedition. S^r^ W^m^ Iohnson is not as you seem to expect to have the Command of the Provincial Troops that are raising in the Eastern Colonies for another Expedition against Crown Point, That is to be given to Colo Winsloe who commanded the New England Troops last Summer in Nova Scotia. I cannot learn what Character he bears as an Officer but he is much esteemed in New England & it is said the Eastern Colonies have resolved to raise for him near 9000. S^r^ W^m^ Iohnson will concern himself only with the Indians which is his proper Sphere, I beleive the Indians that he leads are to act in Conjunction with the Regulars & the Iersey Regiment on the Lakes this Summer I have been informed that to support his Interest among the Indians of the Six Nations, he had almost spent his Fortune therefore it gives me pleasure to hear that his Services have been rewarded in the manner you mention. I am inclined to think General Shirley must be weary of his Command & will resign without much Reluctance, the News of his being superceeded will not I beleive be unwelcome to the Troops or the Inhabitants of N York but I fear the people of the Massachusetts Bay will not be so well satisfied with any Gent^n^ that might be appointed his Successor in that Govern^t^ General Braddock was ordered before he left England to disembark the Regiments in Virg^a^ & proceed directly towards Fort Du Quesne

Letter Bk. III that will perhaps account for his not pursuing a Plan which I think would at that time have been much more eligible—I am sorry to find the Scheme for raising so many Regiments here under Swiss Officers is approved of, because no Step could have been taken that would have been more disagreeable to his Majesty's American Subjects & because I look upon it as absolutely impracticable. Have the four established Regiments notwithstanding they entertained Servants without Distinction been unable to compleat themselves because the Recruiting Officers were not natives of the Country; have the Virginians sunk so many Thousand Pounds without being able to raise & keep 500 Men because Governor Dinwiddie could not help shewing whence he came by his nomination of the Officers? & can it be supposed that 4000 of our Inhabitants will hasten to enlist & serve under Foreigners for I shall be much deceived if these Swiss are not esteemed as such by the Germans who have for any considerable time resided among us as well as by the English. Whence comes it that such Numbers have been speedily collected in the Northern Provinces? must it not be attributed to the Officer's Commission's being given to popular Gentlemen who raise their Men in their respective Neighbourhoods & in a Month or two a Regiment is compleated: It is not for want of Men in these parts that I must go to N England for such an Instance; but before I say any thing more on this Topic let me express my Gratitude for your constant Solicitude & Endeavours to do me Service, had you succeeded so far as to obtain for me the posts of Honour & profit that Brother John & Yourself have been indefatigable in solliciting I could not beleive me have thought myself more obliged than I do at present nor have been more sensibly affected with your Kindness & affectionate Behaviour; It would not I think become me to desire you to forbear using your Interest in my favour but I do make it my earnest Request that no Step or Measure might be taken to promote me which may put it out of your Power or make it more difficult for you to serve him or those whose Merit more particularly entitles them & whose Circumstances more strongly recommend them to your Affectionate Regard. but could I by your means obtain such a Colonel's Commission as would give me a Right to half-pay & at the same time a power to raise a Regiment in this province to be paid from home but called a Provincial Regiment I think I could soon convince the Switzers that they are not the most proper persons to be sent to raise Men in these parts, & I am inclined to think that if His Majesty was pleased to grant such a Commission, & impower me as Governor of Maryland to commissionate all the Officers at least under the Major some Money might be saved to the Nation by the Number of Half-

pay Officers at the End of this American War being much less Letter Bk. III
than it will be if different measures are pursued I cannot conclude this Article without observing that if my hands had not been tied up by such Instructions as empty Coffers seem to have dictated I should many Months ago have had a Regiment of Maryland Troops under my Command & in all probability have been enabled to prevent any Incursions of Indians into this Province & thereby have saved a great part of the £1600 which His Ldp's Agent tells me he has lost by the Back Inhabitants deserting their plantations to avoid the Barbarities of the Savages. I am glad you pressed Mr Calvert to persuade My Lord to make his Tenants a present of some Arms & if he would recover their Affections let him do so; but I dare not speak lest it should be thought that I am courting the people's Favour at another's Expence. I am concerned to find the Instruction lately sent concerning Ordinary Lycences was given with so much Regret or that it is thought a great favour I assure you the Concession does not appear to many here in that light & I heartily wish for His Lordship's Sake more than my own that I had been ordered to wave the Dispute about them before I was thro your Interest honoured with a Lieutt Colonel's Commission Our Assembly is now sitting & have framed a Bill for granting £40,000 for his Majesty's Service but as it does not exempt His Ldp's Mannours & some Lands which he has ordered to be reserved in the populous parts of the province from the Land Tax which is imposed as one of the Funds for sinking the Money I ought in Obedience to a Letter which I have lately received from Mr Calvert to reject the Bill & be guilty of such Reasoning as Govr Morris has been in defending his Superiour's Instructions, but by what I can find His Lordship's Council & best Friends will advise me very differently & insist on my disobeying for once Mr Calvert's Order, unless those Arms should haply arrive before the Bill can be offered me. Whether I shall be approved or condemned for this Step I cannot predict but am in hopes that the arguments which may be used to convince His Lordship that the preservation of his Province depends on a Supply Bill's being passed at this Juncture & that his Ldp's Annual proportion of the intended Tax will be less than the Interest of the Money which according to his Agent's Account he lost last year will excuse me for not insisting so strenuously on what His Ldp & Mr Calvert distinguish by the name of prerogative. I would not imply by any thing that has been said that I at all approve of the Assembly's Conduct, on the Contrary I think them absolutely inexcusable for the part they have acted on this Occasion & if an Act of Generosity in His Ldp had afforded me the least Room I would not have despaired of

Letter Bk. III making them ashamed of their Behaviour & of rendering them odious to their own Constituents. My Iourney to Fort Cumberland last Summer & in the Winter to New York where I was obliged to wait for & attend General Shirley near two Months put me to about £150 Expence for which I shall never receive more than thanks at most, to this let there be added what the Frequency & Length of our Sessions of Assembly & the Number of Military Officers who call on me lay me under a necessity of expending together with part of my House Rent & also the £250 which I am annually to pay M^r^ Calvert for his Correspondence & deduct the whole out of my yearly Salary & Perquisites which amount to about £1400. The Remainder is for the Support of the Honour & Dignity of His Ldp's Governor & for him to lay by against a future Day. I think I have already hinted to you that I am not permitted to dispose of any of the most honourable or Lucrative Offices because another Person loves to have all Applications made to himself, this perhaps is of itself sufficient to lessen the Weight & Influence that a Governor would otherwise have but as it has been thought proper of late to saddle those Offices with about £550 ꝑ Ann. & I am charged with the Care of making the most advantageous Bargains I submit to your own Judgment whether it is possible for a Person in my situation to continue always popular. Any Body that can get introduced to M^r^ Calvert is sure to bring me an open Lett^r^ desiring I will appoint him to this or that or the first vacant Office should I have any Objection to the Person so introduced & recommended to me or for any other reason neglect to comply with the Terms of such Letter, that Man thinks himself hardly dealt by & immediately commences my Enemy. It has been the Policy of my Predecessors always to have three or four Gentlemen of Abilities in His Ldp's Council & the Rule was a good one, such three or four gave the whole Board Weight & made the Lower House more cautious how they attacked a Superiour Branch of the Legislature. Since my Arrival I have had the Misfortune to lose Iennings & two other Gent^n^ of very good Abilities from that Board whereby it is exceedingly reduced tho those Accidents have made no more than three Seats vacant. to fill the first I recommended the Son of one of those deceased a Gent^n^ in my Opinion of the best natural & acquired Abilities of any in the Province & therefore a more desirable Friend & more formidable Enemy. His Services while in the Lower House supported my Recommendation, but my repeated Applications in his favour for what Cause I know not have hitherto proved ineffectual & instead of him am I ordered to put into the Council a Person whose Merit & Qualifications are to me all invisible unless I am to reckon as such an easy Dis-

position & his having lately contracted Marriage with a Niece Letter Bk. III
of His Ldp's who was lately in England & whom possibly you might have seen at the Council Office. On these Matters I have often writ in the most pressing manner but have the Mortification to see that I have done so to very little purpose— There are several Matters about which Disputes have subsisted many years between the Lord Proprietary & the people which would His Ldp suffer them to be brought to a Hearing at home & a final Determination would I am well convinced be decided without the least hesitation in His Ldp's favour, however Some of the violent Patriots as they are called think & persuade the People to think otherwise, a Cause is not to be brought before His Majesty in Council without Money & an Agent; the People have repeatedly desired to be allowed an Agent for a short time; Granting their Request His Lordship says would plunge him into a Sea of Trouble & therefore enjoynes me to take every measure to prevent any thing of that Sort, unless the people will put their Confidence in M^r^ Calvert & nominate him their Agent, this I am to recommend to them as warmly as possible but as it can be easily foreseen with what Indignation they would hear the proposal, I shall never act so impolitickly as to give them a Hint of it—I am sorry to find that M^r^ Hanbury thinks himself in the least respect slighted or neglected by me I am sure I have endeavoured by many Letters to convince him of the contrary & that I highly esteem & value his Friendship. this you may depend I will continue to do but I begin to fear from what you intimate that he is not quite satisfied at my declining to prefer some persons who had procured his Letters of Recommendation I need not tell you what Motive will sometimes induce Merchants to give such Lett^rs^ nor will you think it strange that I should not always see their Friends with the same Eyes that they do, but as far as I have been able I have endeavoured to oblige M^r^ Hanbury by serving his Friends tho as I have before hinted my Superiours have seldom given me such Opportunities— I am exceedingly obliged to you for recommending me so warmly to Lord Loudon whose safe & speedy arrival will give Joy to all His Majesty's American Subjects, by Your Description he is a Gent^n^ that will please much, tho not the more perhaps for being born in a Northern Climate. The favourable Opinion you may have inclined him to entertain of me I shall by Letters & every other Method endeavour to confirm & improve, but as I have little Reason to be fond of attending or making Court to Generals in America I hope I shall be excused for not paying my Respects to him personally, unless I should be fortunate enough to get such a Commission as I have already mentioned. I thank you for informing me how far Lord Albermarle interested

Letter Bk. III himself in my favour, I embrace this Opportunity of making my Acknowledgments to him, & beg the favour of you to present or send him my Letter; To return again to the Army on the Footing of a Lieutenant Colonel with a prospect of being obliged to serve many years in that Capacity here where I have had a Govern^{t} is not I think what I ought to desire especially if there is a Glimpse of hopes that Success will some Day attend your kind Solicitations on my behalf. I suppose General Shirley will never refuse a good Govern^{t} but I much doubt whether he will at this time of Life be able to win the Affections of a strange & new People. The Sentiments of the Inhabitants of N England & the Islanders may not possibly be quite similar & tho he might during many years Residence among them have well studied the former yet perhaps he will find some Difficulty in pleasing or conforming to the Customs of the latter. I am afraid the Gentl^{n} mentioned as his Successor will have a difficult Task to manage that people who are not looked on to be the most tractable & can make their Governors a good deal dependant I think M^{r} Belchier is said to have lost Money in their Service & I do not find that the General has amassed any great fortune. We imagined M^{r} Pownall was to succeed M^{r} Belchier who must certainly very shortly leave the Jersies destitute of a Governor but I presume M^{r} Pownall will be glad to exchange his Expectations of that for an Appointment to the other Province—So far by way of Answer, I now proceed to give you a brief Account of the present posture of our Affairs in America. For the plan of Operations concerted at N York I refer you to Governor Dinwiddie's last Speech to his Assembly in which however you will see he enjoins Secrecy. The Troops that are raising in the Colonies Northward of the Iersies will make a Body of 8000 or 9000 Men & I hope they will not let so much of the Summer elapse as they did last year before they begin their March toward Crown Point. All the Regulars & the Iersey Provincials commanded by Col^{o} Scuyler are proceeding to Oswego, which place I hope is safe, but it has been reported & beleived that the Enemy were preparing to attack it before the Garrison could be reinforced or receive fresh Supplies of Provision of which it is said they were a few Weeks ago in great Want. The General was pleased since our Assembly met to send me a Commission & Instructions to take the Command of all the Forces that should be raised in these Southern Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward. I thanked him for his good Intentions & assured him that if the Colonies would enable me I should readily undertake the Service, but as I have not learned that the Pensilvanians or Virginians have yet come to any Resolution

thereon & as our frugal Gent[n] have directed in the Bill they Letter Bk. III
are framing that no more than 200 Men shall be raised & supported by this Province unless the Neighbouring Colonies send a Number of Troops to act in Conjunction with us I give over all thoughts of marching against Fort Du Quesne this Summer which I beleive is too strong for me to reduce by Virtue of His Excellency's Commission without either Men, Artillery, Money or Provisions. By a late Return from the Lieut[t] Colonel of the Virg[a] Regiment I find they do not yet muster 500 Men about 200 of whom are at Fort Cumberland to guard & defend His Majesty's Stores there, & the Rest are posted at different places on the Frontiers of that Dominion: About a Fortnight ago a Cap[t] of the Virg[a] Regiment with a Detachment of 60 Men fell in with a Party of Indians on this Side the Fort & were entirely defeated, the Captain, Lieutenant & 15 private Men were killed or much wounded & left to the Enemy, & the Rest of the Detachment retired for Shelter to a little Stoccado Fort which happened to have been built near the place of Action; another Party of Virginians had just before attacked a small party of Indians with Success the Indians were led or commanded by a French Ensign habited as an Indian who was left dead on the Field & in a little Bag tied about his Neck were found Instructions from the Commandant of Fort Du Quesne of which I inclose you a Copy. Many of the little Forts that have been raised for the protection of the Frontier Inhabitants both in Pens[a] & Virg[a] have been attacked & some of them reduced; the Indians carry some of those that they make Prisoners & sell them to the French, some of the Women & Children they keep in their own Towns with an Intention to incorporate them with their Tribes, but in general they seem to delight in putting such as are unhappy enough to fall into their hands to a cruel Death. Two or three of their Captives who have lately made their Escape inform us that the French (how numerous I cannot learn) are all employed in building Barracks or Houses near Fort Du Quesne for the Reception & Conveniency of many other Tribes of the Western Indians who have lately come into their Alliance & are to be constantly employed henceforward in harrassing & depopulating these poor defenceless & infatuated Colonies. The Communication between Fort Cumberland & our back Inhabitants has been for some time cut off & the Country for 60 Miles on this Side of it is laid waste & abandoned. I should be pretty well contented if our Assembly would enable me to take such Measures as in my Opinion would most effectually secure the Inhabitants of this Province from any future Incursions, at least till the Switzers shall be able to act offensively; but they are too opinionated as well as too parcimonious to put it in my

Letter Bk. III power; I must therefore yield to all their Absurdities & let dear-bought Experience convince them that there is no immediate Connection between Tobacco planting & Military Affairs & that the Knowledge of one does not always imply Skill or Experience in the other. I have writ to the Secretary of State to acquaint him with our deplorable Situation & the Inability of the people to take effectual Measures for their own preservation, I have intimated to him that the Assembly have resolved to grant £40,000 for His Majesty's Service & the Defence of the Province but that fearing they might involve themselves in greater Expences than the Circumstances of their Constituents can bear if they had impowered me to raise any considerable Body of Men they have restrained the Number to 200, tho I could easily raise 700 or 800 from among the Inhabitants if the Assembly would grant Money for that purpose; I have inclosed the Letter to Lord Baltimore as I am ordered to do all that I write to the Ministry, but as it will be presented M^r^ Fox soon after you receive this, possibly you may make as good a use of it as if you had it to deliver yourself. I delay writing to Iennings till I know the Determination of the Lower House of Assembly on a matter which concerns myself & him & about which he writ to me; but if your Fears about him have proved groundless he shall receive a Letter by the next Ship that sails—

[Sharpe to Fox.]

3^d^ of May 1756

R^t^ Hon^ble^

In Obedience to your Commands signified in a Lett^r^ which I did myself the honour to acknowledge my Receipt of the 8^th^ of March I am now to inform you that soon after my Return from N York where I had been attending General Shirley last Nov^r^ & Decem^r^ I convened the Assembly of this Province & laying before them the General's Plan of Operations exhorted & pressed them to contribute as much as was in their power towards carrying it into Execution, & to provide for the Defence & Security of the Frontiers of this Province on which some parties of Indians had begun to make Incursions. After having sat some weeks they voted about £25,000 St^g^ for His Majesty's Service & have been since preparing a Bill for that purpose. They intend to appropriate part of the Money for building a Fort on the Frontiers of this Province & garrisoning it with 200 Men, but as the Fort is to be 60 Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland & the Men to be all disbanded next Winter, I am afraid the Money will be expended without contributing much to the Security of the Inhabitants of this

Province or promoting the Common Cause. I have endeavoured Letter Bk. III
to convince the Assembly of this & to persuade them to let the Money be disposed of in such a manner as would most effectually preserve their Country & offend the Enemy, & in Order to this I have recommended the building a strong Fort on an Eminence at the Conflux of the North & South Branches of Potowmack (on the Expediency of which I took the Liberty in Feb^{y} last to communicate my Sentiments to the R^{t} Hon^{ble} the Lords of Trade) which with a small Fort between that place & that where our People intend to build one would always keep open the Communication between the Inhabitants & Fort Cumberland, & would be very convenient or rather absolutely necessary as a place of Arms in any future Expeditions to the westward a Body of 500 or 600 Men which had I wherewith to support them I could easily raise from among our Inhabitants, posted in those Forts with Orders to be constantly patrolling or ranging on the Frontiers would effectually prevent any Incursions of Indians & be always ready to act in Conjunction with any Troops that should be raised in the Neighbouring Colonies, or able of themselves to send Detachments to annoy the Indians in their own Country. but as our Assembly imagine such measures would involve them in greater Expences than they think their Constituents can well bear & oblige them to keep up a Body of Troops much longer than they propose by the Bill that is now under their Consideration, I am afraid it will be impossible for me as I have already hinted to prevail with them to do what the Safety of the Back Inhabitants requires & without which they may expend considerable Sums of Money to very little purpose. I have been advised that a Captain of the Virginia Regiment, which consists of about 500 Men with a Detachment of Sixty fell in lately with a party of Indians by whom they were entirely defeated; the Captain, Lieutenant, & 15 Men being killed the Rest retired to a little Sort of a Fort that was near the place where the Action happened. Another Party of Indians have been attacked in Virginia with better Success & a French Ensign that led them being killed, there were found in a little Bag tied about his Neck Instructions from Dumas the Commandant at Fort Du Quesne ordering him to make an Incursion with a party of 50 Savages to Conegochiegh (a place about 70 Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland) & destroy the Magazine of Stores & Provisions that has been left there ever since last Summer. This inclines me to think that the French do not expect any Expedition will be carried on by us to the westward this Season & that they are so anxious to prevent a possibility of it by destroying the Ammunition & Stores that they may detach as many of their Garrison as they can possibly spare to the North-

Letter Bk. III ward where they cannot be ignorant that large preparations are making against them. Some of the back-Inhabitants who have escaped from the Ohio whither they had been carried by the Savages report that the Artillery which fell into the Enemy's hands last Summer have been carried up that River & that the French purchase the Men which the Indians have taken from the Frontiers of these Colonies & keep them constantly employed in building Barracks for the Reception & Convenience of the Indian Tribes that have lately come into their Alliance & are to be employed this Summer in harrassing & depopulating these provinces. The Cherokees or Carolina Indians have I hear made great professions of Friendship to the Commissioners that were sent from Virg[a] to make a Treaty & enter into a League with them but they will not declare openly in our Favour, or commence hostilities against the French or their Allies till we have an Army able to act offensively & till we have constructed a strong Fort in their Country for the Security of their wives & Children while their young Men act in Conjunction with our Troops, in this the Commissioners promised to gratify them, & Governor Dinwiddie has ordered a Detachment from the Virg[a] Regiment on that Service.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Albemarle.]

5[th] of May 1756—

My Ld

Brother Will[m] has not neglected to inform me how kindly & generously your Ldp interested yourself & how earnestly you endeavoured to do me Service on your Receipt of the Letter which I took the Liberty to address to you from N York & I should be inexcusable was I to let slip this first Opportunity of making my thankful Acknowledgments & of assuring your Ldp that tho your Solicitations had succeeded to the utmost of my wishes yet I could not have been more sensibly affected or more grateful than I am at present. My Brother acquaints me with the Resolution taken to have some Regiments raised from among the Germans in this & the Neighbouring Provinces on a Supposition that those people will readily enlist under Swiss Officers, I cannot venture to say whether such Regiments will be compleated or not but I cannot help thinking that if I had been impowered to raise a Regiment in this Province I should have done it with greater Dispatch than the Swiss Officers will be able to do. I am glad to hear Lord Loudon is appointed to take the Command of all His Majesty's Forces

in America & that he might be shortly expected with some Letter Bk. III
more British Regiments All His Majesty's American Subjects earnestly pray for prosperous Gales for them & I most heartily wish His Ldp might arrive time enough to make the Campaign. The Regiments already here are I beleive near compleat & I learn that they have begun their March towards Oswego on Ontario Lake where they are to be employed this Summer, while a Body of 8000 or 9000 Provincial Troops that are raising in the Eastern Colonies make an Attempt on Crown Point, Colonel Winsloe who was a Captain on the Carthagena Expedition & commanded the N England Troops last year in Nova Scotia is to have the Chief Command of all the Provincials, & S^r^ Will^m^ Iohnson is only to lead or concern himself with the Indians who are to act in Conjunction with the Regiments on the Lake. We have been in some pain for Oswego this winter on account of some preparations that were said to be making by the French at Frontenac to attack it before the Garrison could be reinforced or receive Supplies of Provisions, which it seems they were much in want of, but I hope that the Danger is eer this over. The Virginians have expended very large Sums of Money without being able to prevent the Incursions & Barbarities of the Indians or even to raise 500 Men for the Defence of their Frontiers; & the Pensilvanians have spent great part of £60,000 this Winter to as little purpose & as much more they may dispose of without doing the least Service unless they would raise Men enough to act offensively. About two Months ago General Shirley sent me a Commission to take the Command of all the Forces that I could persuade these Southern Colonies to raise for carrying on an Expedition or making a Diversion to the Westward. As I found the several Assemblies did not so readily come into the proposal as the General seemed to have expected, & as His Excellency had thought proper to order from Virginia all the Field Pieces &c that were there & all indeed that were to be found in these Southern Colonies, I returned him thanks for his kind Intention in sending me such a Commission, but intimated to him that as the Colonies would do nothing & he had not impowered me to draw for a Shilling the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne would be impracticable without either Men Artillery Arms Ammunition or Provisions, & nothing farther remains for me to do than to urge our Assembly to grant a Sum of Money for the Defence of their own Frontiers, tho that as has been already hinted can never be effectually done while the French remain Masters of the Ohio & consequently of all the Indians to the Westward of these Provinces. We learn from some of our back Inhabitants who were captivated by the Indians but have lately made their Escape that the French at

Letter Bk. III Fort Du Quesne (whose numbers by what I can find are but small) purchase those of our Men that the Indians take prisoners & keep them employed in building Barracks near the Fort for the Reception of the Numerous Tribes of Indians that have since the Action of the Monongahela come into their Alliance & who are to be employed henceforward in harrassing & depopulating these poor defenceless & infatuated Colonies—

Letter Bk. I. p. 195

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

5th May 1756 transmitted by Capt Lee.

S^r^

I am now favoured with your Letter of the 23^d^ of December together with His Lordship's Instructions dated the 27th of Oct^r^ I had anticipated His Lordship's Desires about sending Circular Letters to the Magistrates directing them to make an Enquiry into the Conduct of the Roman Catholicks; inclosed you have a Copy of the Letter that was sent to them & the answer of the Magistrates of one County, the Answers from the several Counties are much to the same purport. His
p. 196 Lordship might depend that if these People offend they shall not escape with Impunity but while their Behaviour is unexceptionable it would be hard to take any Measures that may be called persecution. The Lower House have thought proper to address me again on that Subject, I have answered them with all possible Temper & Coolness, but in such a manner as I hope will convince them there was very little Room for an Address of that Sort, & prevent their presenting such another for the future. I find that in your last Lett^r^ to Col^o^ Lloyd You express a little Surprize at my having denied to issue pilot Lycences (as it should seem Col^o^ Lloyd had expressed himself) & give it as your Opinion that I might issue such at present as has been usual if applied for. You will be pleased to remember that in my Lett^r^ dated the 8th of August 1754 I writ fully on this Affair & desired your farther Directions thereon, inclosed you have an Extract of that Letter to which I should be glad to be favoured with an Answer. You say I might issue such Lycences as have been usual, I hope Col^o^ Lloyd acquainted you that none have ever been granted but in the year 1734 or 35, & as His late Lordship would not prosecute such persons as piloted without Lycence nor assist those that were Lycenced Pilots in carrying on such prosecutions, No Body thought proper afterwards to apply for a Lycence. Now as I cannot think it is for His Ldp's Interest to attempt any thing but what he is sure of carrying, as otherwise a Clamour might be raised, & nothing gained to His Lordship

or his Govern^{t} I was unwilling to issue Pilot's Lycences which Letter Bk. I.
would be by the Enemies of the Govern^{t} called an Innovation
till I was properly advised in what manner I should support
His Ldp's Right & carry his Instruction properly into Execu-
tion, In being thus cautious I hope you will believe I intended
nothing, but Good to His Ldp, but if you think I erred in
judgment, be pleased as I before desired you to signify his
Ldp's Will with respect to this matter & be assured that I shall p. 197
most punctually comply therewith. I have spoke to Col^{o} Lloyd
about the Six Rental Books & Bills of Excha. which were sent
to him the 10th Dec^{r} 1754. he says they were all received, &
I have also delivered to him the Packetts that you sent inclosed
to me with your Letter of the 23^{d} of Dec^{r} 1755. I have
repeatedly mentioned to him what you have writ concerning
his Neglect &c & he has as often promised me that you should
have no farther Cause of Complaint, but I am a little afraid
that such frequent Hints from me may be disagreeable & that
he will be apt to think I busy myself more about what properly
belongs to him than His Lordship or yourself desire me.
As to what I mentioned some time since about reducing the
Farmer's or Sheriff's Sallaries for collecting the Rents to Six $\mathfrak{p}$
C^{t} it cannot be done at present, if ever a fair Opportunity shall
offer I hope His Ldp will beleive that I will not fail to obey his
Commands, & that I shall agreeable to his Orders take all
possible Care to prevent any Incroachments on any part of His
Ldp's Province. I might refer you to my Letters dated the
18th of March & 17th of April for an Account of our present
Situation, The Assembly is still sitting, on the Bill that was
prepared some of the Gent^{n} of both Houses are holding
a Conference, what will be the Event of it I cannot predict.
As there are many Obstacles to be removed before they take
that Part which imposes a Tax on Lands into Consideration, I
am apt to think the Conference will break up & perhaps the
Assembly be prorogued without His Ldp's Mannour Lands
coming into Dispute. A few Days I think will determine the
Fate of this Bill & bring Matters to a Conclusion; but if we
do nothing for the protection of the Frontiers God knows what
will be the Consequence, Conegochiegh is already our most
Western Settlement & if the Inhabitants of that part of the
Country do not stand their Ground & I think there is little
Probability of their doing so, I beleive one might foretell
without the Spirit of Prophesy that all that part of Frederick p. 198
County that lies beyond Frederick Town will be abandoned
before this time twelve month at farthest. The Inhabitants of
all that part of Virg^{a} which lies Westward of the Shanadoe
River have I am told left their plantations; & notwithstanding
a great Part of the £60000. granted by the Pensilvanians has

Letter Bk. I. been expended in building Forts & keeping Troops on the Frontiers of that Province the Setlers have for many Score Miles deserted their Houses & retired to the more populous parts of that Colony. Several of the small Forts that were built in Virg[a] & Pens[a] have been attacked by large Parties of Indians, & some reduced; Capt. Mercier of the Virg[a] Regiment with a Detachment of 60 Men from Fort Cumberland was fallen upon & defeated about a fortnight ago many Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland; the Captain, His Lieutenant & 15 Men were killed & left to the Enemy the Rest of the Detachment retired to a little Stoccado Fort near Cacapetion which runs into Potowmack. two of Capt Dagworthy's Company that were with the abovementioned Detachment were found tied to Trees & their Bodies most horribly mangled, it is supposed that they were tied while living & put to the most cruel Death. Ensign Bacon of Capt Dagworthy's Company was scalped as he was returning from Colo Cresap's to the Fort; & one of Colo Cresap's Sons who put himself at the head of a party of Voluntiers & went in pursuit of the Indians is also killed. At present the Garrison at Fort Cumberland consists of no more than 150 Men, 30 of the Carolina Company & the Rest of the Virg[a] Regiment which consists of about 450. I cannot learn that the Pens[a] Assembly have as yet come to any Resolution neither can I hear certainly whether the Virginians have determined to raise any more Troops. Governor Dinwiddie has informed me that the Commissioners which he had sent to the Cherokee Nation advise him
p. 199 that those Indians make strong professions of Friendship but will not take up the Hatchet against the French or join any of the English Troops till we have built a strong Fort among them for the Protection & Security of their Wives & Children; in this Governor Dinwiddie has promised to gratify them & sent a Command of 60 Men to build such a Fort. The French it seems have made a Settlement within a few Days March of their Town & been tampering with them to declare ag[st] Us; I hope this Step however will prevent that for the present, tho unless His Majesty's Arms are successful this Campaign I am afraid these people will not be long kept firm in our Interest. We have for some time past been in pain for Oswego which the French it was said were preparing to attack before the Garrison could be reinforced or receive fresh Supplies of Provisions, of which they were in want. but as we have not received any late News from that Quarter I hope the Danger is over for the present, & I hear that the Regiments are now on their march thither. Lord Loudon we are told is coming over with some more Regiments, their speedy Arrival is prayed for by all His Majesty's American Subjects. &c.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I.

5th of May 1756.

My Ld

Inclosed is a Duplicate of the last Letter that I took the Liberty to address to your Ldp since the writing of which I have been honoured with your Lordship's Instructions dated the 27th of Octob. to which I hope Your Ldp will be persuaded that due Obedience shall be paid & that no persons of a different Religion from that by Law established shall be encouraged, or ever escape with Impunity when they forget to behave as becomes good & loyal Subjects. I had anticipated your Ldp's Command to send Circular Lettrs to the Magistrates to enquire into the Roman Catholick's Lives & Conduct & upon the Report of all the Magistrates I can assure Your Ldp that none of them have lately given just Cause of Offence, & I p. 200 hope the Lower House of Assembly are so well convinced of it that they will not offer any more Addresses on this Subject. I have inclosed to Mr Calvert a Copy of their last Address which I presume will be submitted to your Lordship & I hope your Ldp will not disapprove of the Answer that I returned. The Assembly is still sitting & have not yet come to a final Determination about the Supply Bill which alone has hitherto engrossed their whole Attention. I know not when they will come to a Conclusion but am in hopes that I shall at least be able to judge what will be the Event of our Meeting before I write by a Ship that is expected to sail in about 10 Days. With regard to the present Condition of Your Ldp's Province & the unhappy Situation of the Frontier Inhabitants I have little to add to what I mentioned in my last Letter, those that are exposed to immediate Danger want Spirit & Unanimity & those that are remote seem to have but little Feeling for the Miseries of their Fellow Subjects. Conegochiegh is at length become the Frontier Settlement in Maryland & by what I can learn Shanadoe River is almost the Western Limit of Virga Notwithstanding the Forts that have been built & garrisoned along the Frontiers of Pensilvania the Indians continue to make Incursions & the Country for a great many Miles within the Forts is already abandoned. In Virga several of their little Forts have been attacked & some reduced & a Captain of the Virga Regiment with a Detachment of 60 men was about a fortnight ago defeated by a large party of Indians about 20 Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland. the Captain Lieutenant & 15 of the Detachment were killed the rest retired to a little Fort that happened to be near the place where the Action happened. Another Party of Indians have been attacked by some Virginia Planters with better Success the party was led or com-

Letter Bk. I. manded by a French Ensign who was killed & in a little Bag that was tied about his Neck were found some Instructions
p. 201 from the Commandant of Fort Du Quesne of which I inclose your Ldp a Copy. Capt. Dagworthy who commands the Maryland Company has lately lost his Ensign & a Son of Colonel Cresap's who went with a party of Voluntiers in pursuit of the Indians is also killed. We are told that a Body of French & Indians have lately attacked Oswego but without Success & that they are again retired to Frontenac. The Regiments We hear are on their March for Oswego & I hope the Provincials are also e'er this in Motion towards Crown Point. I am sorry the Persons I employed have been unable to put it in my power to send your Ldp the Partridges that I promised by this Ship, they tell me t'was impossible to catch any because they had paired but as soon as their Young come abroad, I shall have a Covey or two taken, which shall be carefully sent agreeable to your Ldp's Desire—

[Rules for settling Rank.]

George R.

Whereas doubts may arise with regard to the Rank, and Precedence, to be observed, between the Commander in Chief, Generals, and other Officers of Our Forces in America, and the Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Presidents of the Council of Our Several Provinces & Colonies; In order to Fix the same, and to Prevent all disputes, We do hereby declare, that it is Our Will and Pleasure, that the following Rules be observed with Respect to the Rank & Precedence of the said Persons in America Viz^{t}

1st The Commander in Chief of Our Forces, by Commission under Our Great Seal of Great Britain.

2^{d} Captains General, & Governors in Chief of Our Provincies and Colonies, when in their Respective Governments, as appointed by Commission under Our Great Seal of Great Britain.

3^{d} General Officers upon the Staff.

4th Captains General and Governors in Chief of Our Provinces & Colonies when out of their Respective Governments.

5th Lieutenant Governors & Presidents of Council, when Commanders in Chief of Our Provinces & Colonies in their Respective Governments

6th Colonels

7th Lieutenant Governors and Presidents of Council, when Commanders in Chief of Our Provinces and Colonies, out of their Respective Governments.

8th Lieutenant Governors of Proprietary Governments when in their Respective Governments. Letter Bk. I.

9th Lieutenant Governors of Our Provinces and Colonies, not being Commanders in Chief, out of their Respective Governts

10. Governors of Charter Colonies, when in their Respective Colonies.

11th All Field Officers under the Rank of Colonels

12th Lieutenant Governors of Proprietary Governments out of their Respective Governments

13. Governors of Charter Colonies, out of their Respective Colonies.

All Captains General & Governors in Chief of Our Provinces and Colonies to take Rank, according to the dates of their Comiss

All Lieutenant Governors of Our Provinces and Colonies the same.

All Lieutenant Governors of Proprietary Governments the same

Governors of Charter Colonies according to the date of their Charters.

Given at our Court at Kensington this seventh day of May in the Twenty Ninth year of Our Reign

By His Majesty's Command

H. Fox

[Rules for Settling Rank.] Original.

George R.

Whereas some doubts have arisen with Regard to the Rank and Command, which the General and Field Officers of the Troops raised by the Governors of Our Provinces in North America, should have, when Ioind, or serving together, with our Regular Forces, in our said Provinces; In order to fix the same, and to Prevent all disputes on that Account, We do hereby declare, that It is our Will and Pleasure, that all General and Field Officers, serving by Commission from the Governors, Lieutenant or deputy Governors or Presidents of the Council, for the time being, of our said Provinces, shall take Rank, as Eldest Captains on all detachments, Courts Martial, or other duty where in the said General and Field Officers may be employed in North America, in Conjunction with our Regular Forces Given at our Court at Kensington the 12th day of May 1756 in the Twenty Ninth Year of our Reign

By His Majestys Commd

H Fox

Rank of Provincial General & Field Officers in North America

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

10th of May. 1756

Sr

The alarming Accounts that we have lately received from the Frontiers of Virga & which by your Letter dated the 29th of April are confirmed give me great concern but I hope the Steps you have taken will in some sort put a Stop to such Incursions tho that can never be effectually done till a sufficient Body of Troops can be formed to march & annoy the Enemy in their own Country & when that will be I know not unless Troops are sent from Europe to these Colonies for I hear the Pensilvanians have not come to any Resolution to grant farther Supplies nor do they seem much disposed to raise any Men to be marched out of that province. Our Assembly is still sitting, some Gentn from each House have been more than a week conferring on the Subject Matter of a Supply Bill, I beleive there will be one passed but by what I can find t'will be framed in such a manner as to contribute little to the Safety of the Province or promote His Majesty's Service. A Fort it seems is to be built on the North Mountain about 10 Miles above the Mouth of Conegochiegh, & 200 Men are to be raised to garrison it & patroll or range on our Frontiers; in Case Troops were to be raised by yours & the neighboring Colonies to act in Conjunction & together form a sufficient Body of Men to act offensively or carry on an Expedition to the Westward I am to have Liberty to raise more Men in Maryland & to expend £25,000 on such Expedition. By what I can learn your Regiment does not yet amount to 500, which I am afraid are not found more than enough to garrison Fort Cumberland & keep open the Communication between that place & the Inhabitants; if you are of a different Opinion or should your Assembly enable you to compleat the Regiment or support any considerable Number of Troops I shall be much obliged to you for informing me by Express what Number you can engage to furnish for an Expedition that I might give Directions accordingly, for as I have already hinted I cannot tho our Bill should pass proceed to raise more than 200 Men before I have received assurances that they will be joined by a certain & proportionable Number from Virga & one or more of the Neighbouring provinces. I have not heard that much Mischief has been lately done on our Frontiers but if there had I am convinced by Experience that t'would be impossible for me to get the Militia to move & oppose the Enemy. At present Capt Dagworthy's Company & two or three Parties of Rangers are posted at & about Conegochiegh to keep the Inhabitants a little easy & together till the Assembly come to some Con-

clusion on the Matters that I have recommended to their Consideration. but I am glad you have taken such a Step to secure the Cherokees in our Interest & hope twill have a good Effect. What you say of Gov^{r} Glen's Conduct does not a little surprize me. The publick papers from Phil^{a} will shew you what is doing to the Northward. I am advised from England that Lord Loudon is coming over to command in Chief in America, that some Regiments are ordered from England & Ireland to N York & that 4000 are to be raised in these Provinces & to be commanded by Swiss German & British Officers intermixed. War was not declared the 20th of March. General Shirley is or will be appointed Gov^{r} of Iamaica. As soon as our Assembly have come to a final Determination I will send you Advice thereof & in the mean time am &c Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Morris.]

16th of May 1756

S^{r}

This is to inform you that both Houses of our Assembly did after having sat thereon 12 weeks yesterday agree upon a Bill for granting £40,000 for His Majesty's Service part of which Sum is appropriated for the building & garrisoning a strong Fort on the North Mountain (which it is determined shall be our Westernmost Frontier) three thousand pounds for the Cherokees or Southern Indians in Case either of the neighbouring Colonies shall think proper to send Commissioners in Conjunction with ours to treat with those people, & £25,000 towards carrying on any Expedition which shall be undertaken by Pens^{a} Virg^{a} this Province & any other conjointly. Inclose you a Copy of that Clause of the Act & shall be obliged to you for acquainting me whether your Assembly will as that of Virg^{a} has done contribute their quota towards carrying on any such Expedition & whether any Commissioners will be sent by you to hold a Treaty with the Southern Indians I am &c

[Shirley to Sharpe.] Original.

Albany May 16. 1756.

Sir,

Three Days ago I was favour'd with your Letter dated the 10th of April inclosing one from Colonel Washington to me dated the 4th together wth another from yourself dated the 14th of the same month.

I am sorry to find from the Accounts given me in your Honour's Letters, & others from Gov^{r} Dinwiddie and Gov^{r}

Morris, of the dangerous Situation of the three Provinces under your respective Governments, and the proceedings of the Assemblies within them, that there seems to be not the least Appearance of any provision's being made for prosecuting the propos'd Expedition under your Command agst the French Settlem^{ts} on the Ohio, the succeeding in w^{ch} it seems to me, would deliver you in the most effectual manner, from the Distresses, under w^{ch} Virginia and Pensilvania now labour from the Ravages of the French and their Indians.

I can't find that the Assemblies of those two Provinces have any thing further in view than the bare protection of their own Frontiers agst the growing Incursions of the Enemy; and as to your own Assembly, they are upon the point of disbanding the only Company they have at a time when his Maj$^{y's}$ Fort Cumberland within the limits of the Province of Maryland, & several of his Maj$^{y's}$ Stores in it, is in danger of falling into the Enemy's Hands.—

As to my taking upon me, Sir, to throw the whole Expence of supporting an Expedition from the Western Colonies to the Ohio upon the Crown, after his Maj^{y} hath been at so great an one in the Reg^{ts} he has already rais'd here, & sent, & is still sending over; and whilst the New England Colonies, & those of New York & New Jersey, whose Abilities don't exceed those of the Western Colonies, have besides raising Troops for the defence of their own Frontiers, rais'd upwards of 9000 Men for the asserting his Maj^{ys} just Rights & Dominions upon the Lake Champlain, & the Lake Ontario, &c, it is what I can't justify; especially now we are appriz'd from publick Acc^{ts} in News papers, & private Letters from England, that the Arrival of Lord Loudon may be soon expected here with the Chief Command of his Maj$^{y's}$ Forces in North America.

I am likewise in hourly Expectation of receiving his Maj^{ys} Commands by General Webb concerning the plan of Operations, he would have prosecuted this year, w^{ch} is another Reason why I can't send you a peremptory Answer to the points propos'd to me in your two Letters, before I receive those Orders: But your Honour may depend upon my sending it to you, as soon as they arrive.

In the mean time I beg you would be pleas'd to acquaint Col: Washington, that the Appointment of him to the second Command in the propos'd Expedition upon the Ohio, will give me great Satisfaction & pleasure; that I know no Provincial Officer upon this Continent, to whom I would so readily give it as to himself; that I shall do it, if there is nothing in the King's Orders, w^{ch} I am in continual Expectation of, that interferes wth it; & that I will have the pleasure of answering his Letter immediately after my receiving them.

I have only to add, that upon Gov^r Dobbs's first acquainting me, ab^t four months ago, w^th his Assembly's having rais'd three Companies to be employ'd in that part of his Maj^ys Service, w^ch he should think best, & writing to me for Directions concerning their Destination, I desir'd him to send them to act w^th the King's Troops upon Lake Ontario; But on my determining to recommend an Expedition upon the Ohio to the Western Colonies, I order'd them to be sent upon the Service under your Command: You will perceive by the inclos'd Extract of his Letter to me dated 23^d March; that he was then acquainted with those Orders thro' M^r Dinwiddie; But for the Reasons therein mention'd was determin'd to send his three Companies to join me, & not the Forces to be employ'd upon the Ohio; so that I am affraid you will be disappointed in your Expectation of them to Act with you.

I am with great Regard & Esteem,
Sir, Your Honour's most Humble
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 201

27^th of May 1756

My Ld

As I have writ by this same Opportunity to M^r Calvert & acquainted him very particularly with the Event of our long Session of Assembly & every other matter that concerns Your Ldp's Interest or the Safety of y^r Province which I could possibly enlarge on at this time I shall not trouble your Ldp with any long or minute Detail of the Measures that have been taken, but leave it entirely to M^r Calvert to lay an Account of those Transactions before your Ldp & I hope the part I have acted therein will appear in such a light as will incline Y^r Ldp to approve of my Conduct. As the Sum of Money which is appropriated in the Bill that I have herewith transmitted towards carrying on an Expedition to the Westward is not to be used or touched unless the neighbouring Colonies will also contribute their proportionable & respective Quotas for that Service & as Governor Dobbs informs me that all the Troops p. 202 which have been raised in N Carolina are at Gen^l Shirley's Request transported to N York & as the Pensilvanians have not & are not likely to grant any farther Supplies I give over all thoughts of seeing any Expedition undertaken in these parts this Summer especially as we have no Artillery & are very ill provided with Arms & Ammunition, neither could Magazines be now laid in time enough for a Campaign nor a

Letter Bk. I. sufficient Body of Men collected before the Season would be too far advanced. Affairs being thus situated I am preparing to set off for the Frontiers to put them in the best Posture of Defence that the Law will permit & have a strong Fort constructed on the North Mountain; I learn that all the Forces to the Northw^{d} are in motion towards the places of their respective Destination but unless the Troops that We are bid to expect from England arrive time enough to join them I am not with^{t} some Apprehensions that the Campaign will not be closed so successfully & happily as we all wish. The Virginians are about to compleat their Regiment commanded by Col^{o} Washington with Drafts from the Militia of that Colony but I do not conceive that it will be possible for them to attempt any thing more this Summer than oppose the Incursions of the Savages & prevent the entire Depopulation of their Frontier Counties. I have not heard that any Mischief has been lately done in either Virg^{a} or Pens^{a} but as it is the Custom of Indians to return home after an Engagement for a Short time this is easily accounted for & We daily expect to have them upon the Frontiers in greater Numbers, however I hope our people will now be in some Measure prepared for them & that they will not be able to repeat their Barbarities in this province with Impunity. I beleive I shall return again to Annapolis in about a month when I shall do myself the honour in another Lett^{r} to desire that Y^{r} Ldp will beleive me to be

Y^{r} Ldps most devoted
& most humb Serv^{t}

p. 203 [Sharpe to Calvert.]

27th of May 1756. transmitted by Capt M^{c}Gahen—

S^{r}

I am now to inform you that the Assembly is at length broke up after having sat almost twice as long as ever an Assembly has been known or heard to have done before. You will see a List of the Laws that were enacted on the Day of Session in the inclosed Gazette to which I also beg leave to refer you for my Proroguing Speech. The Journal of Accounts has been agreed to by both Houses & a Levy Bill is passed to pay off all the Publick Debts, so that Bone of Contention at least no longer exists & thereby the Difficulty of finding Ways & means to raise money hereafter for His Majesty's Service is I hope removed as a Poll Tax will be obvious for that purpose. As soon as the Laws can be printed I shall take Care to send them with Remarks as usual tho none of them are of very great importance or of an extraordinary Nature except

the Supply Bill which I will get transcribed time enough to transmit it herewith. In my Letter of the 5th Inst I informed you that the Two Houses had agreed on a Conference & that I apprehended there were too many Exceptionable Clauses in the Bill to be ever got over, however after a warm Engagement between the Conferees which lasted more than a Week the Lower House amended the Parts that had been principally objected to & left no very exceptionable Clauses unless it be that which subjects His Ldp's Mannours & other demised Lands to the Payment of the Land Tax which as you will see is made one of the Funds for sinking the Money, & unless that Clause also be thought to deserve such an Epithet which makes the Lands of Roman Catholicks liable to the Payment of a double Tax as is done by the Statutes of England. A Day or two before the Bill was sent to the Upper House there was a Petition left for me at the Council Chamber subscribed by some of the principal Roman Catholicks in the Country desiring me to dissent to the Bill (which they said lay before me) because it imposed a double Tax on the Lands of all Persons of their Persuasion. I could not help thinking that this Step was a little extraordinary as they had heard & known that the Lower House had or were about to insert such a Clause in the Supply Bill at least 8 weeks before, & had never put a Petition into that House nor desired to be heard against the Bill there, tho they had been advised so to do, had they followed such Advice their Application afterwards to the Superiour Branches of the Legislature would have been regular & decent, & no more than would have been expected from them, but to pay no manner of Regard to that Branch of the Legislature where the Bill was taking its Rise, & knowing it would be thought a little irregular for the Upper House to offer Amendments to a Money Bill to make no Objection before it came before them, & then to shew that they relied on the Governor to dissent to the Bill, was proceeding in such a manner as could only tend to give Clamorous & Factious people an Occasion of representing the Governor & Council as Favourers of Popery, which surely is a Charge that they nor any Friends to the Govern^{t} should at such a time give the least Room for. I send you a Copy of the Petition abovementioned & of the answer that was by my Order given thereto, & tho I would have prevented such a Taxation as they complain of had it been possible yet I do not think that the Injustice of it is so great as they would represent it, nor is such as ought in my Opinion to be set in Competition with the Lives of hundreds or perhaps with the preservation of the whole Province. It might be observed that they are & have been for a long time excused from attending Musters as Militia (a Priveledge which they enjoy in common with the

Letter Bk. I. p. 204

Letter Bk. I. Magistrates) & that persons of the Roman Catholick persuasion are so far from being allowed any Liberties or Priviledges in His Majesty's several Colonies that they are absolutely excluded or daily persecuted, but this matter I submit entirely to His Ldp's & your own Judgment & Determination with this Remark only that if nothing had been at this time done for the Security & Defence of the Frontier Inhabitants, the Value of theirs as well as of all Estates in the Province would have sunk more in two years than the Tax which is imposed on them respectively will amount to in the five years for which the Act
p. 205 is made to endure. Concerning that Part of the Bill which imposes the Land Tax I presume Col° Lloyd will write to you very particularly as it is a matter which in some Sort relates to himself & which as Agent he ought to be most intimately acquainted with; I thought it highly necessary that he should be present in the Upper House when the Affair came under their consideration & therefore I writ to him & insisted on his coming over before the Conference was begun or agreed to. I submitted to the Council Extracts of the Letters in which I mentioned to His Ldp or yourself the late Disputes between Governor Morris & his Assembly & also your Answer thereto in your Letter dated the 24th of Oct^r & desired they would maturely consider the Affair & give me their Advice thereon. Col° Lloyd enlarged on the Losses His Ldp suffered last year on Account of these unhappy Disturbances & the distracted & defenceless Condition of the Province & undertook to shew that His Ldp's proportion of the Tax about to be imposed by the Bill would be far short of the Interest of the Money that he lost last year, if then said he nothing be done for the Security of the Province (& that nothing would be done if the Bill had been refused on Account of that Clause was evident) Purchasers of Land will be much fewer this year than they were last, & continue to decrease till effectual measures are taken for our Defence; His Ldps Revenue from Lands will consequently diminish in proportion, & so His Ldp will in effect be a much greater Loser by the Bill's being rejected because it imposes a Tax of perhaps £80 a year for five years on His Ldps Lands, than if it was to pass & make His Ldp liable to the payment of double the Sum: It was also argued that such Lands as are held by Tenants under the Crown in England are subjected to the poundage there, & that by inserting in all the Leases as they come to be renewed a Clause to oblige the Tenant to pay all Taxes &c the Burthen might in great measure be taken from His Ldp. It was observed that the matter under Consideration was by no means similar with the late Cause of Dispute in Pens^a for that the Pens^a Assembly insisted that all the Proprietaries real & personal Estate there

should be taxed by Assessors elected by & from among the Letter Bk. I.
people who may not always be upright & impartial Men, but p. 206
that as the Contents of His Ldp's Mannours & Demised
Lands were or would be certainly known there could be no
room for iniquitous Estimations or unequal Assessments.
As these Arguments did not appear to be without Weight, in
Obedience to one of His Ldps Instructions I heard all the
Gentlemen give their reasons in support of their respective
Opinions, & as they were all unanimous that my rejecting the
Bill on Acco[t] of the Land Tax would in reality be exceedingly
prejudicial to His Lordship's Interest, & as they all with one
Voice advised & pressed me not to refuse the Bill as it was
agreed on by both Houses but to assent thereto, I was pre-
vailed on to pass it into a Law & hope that in doing so I shall
not expose myself to His Ldp's Displeasure, but that my
Conduct therein will meet with His Ldp's & your Approbation.
As I shall in a seperate paper observe on every part of the af[d]
Law & transmit such paper of Remarks together with this I
shall in my Letter take no farther notice thereof but proceed
to explain a little my Speech to the Assembly at their Pro-
rogation. You know that during M[r] Ogles Gov[t] before he
was recalled a Faction sprung up in the province that has in
some measure existed even to this time. In what manner the
Govern[t] was attacked in 1739 & what methods were then &
have been since taken to persuade the people that the Duties
of 14[d] ℔ Tonn & 1/ ℔ Hhd have been & are still raised illegally
you are not ignorant; Attempts I am told have been lately
made by some to get a Subscription for the Support of an
Agent to bring these matters to a Hearing before His Majesty
in Council, & to those Attempts I alluded in the latter part of
my Speech; I hope it will put an entire Stop to every Pro-
ceeding of that Sort but lest it should not I have got made
by my Secretary a full & particular State or historical
Account of all the Revenue Laws that have from time
to time been made for the Support of Govern[t] to enable
him to do this he had free Access to & leave to peruse
& examine all the Record Books & Iournals of the Upper &
Lower Houses as well as the Councils proceedings & I think
according to the Extracts or Quotations from them respectively
& very natural Reasoning thereon His Ldp has as clear invio-
lable & indisputable a Title & Right to all the Monies that he
receives as any Person can possibly have to receive the Rents
or Income of any Paternal or purchased Estate. I cannot help
thinking that if the abovementioned Account or State was to
be laid before the Lower House the most seditious & malevo- p. 207
lent would be silenced & ashamed to open their Mouths again
on that Subject, for if the Quotations are fair & exact the Reas-

Letter Bk. I. oning I think must be conclusive & should they deny or question the Justness of the Quotation Mr Ridout has taken Minutes & References so that the Original Books & Pages can be easily recurred to. however as I think it would be best to confute every Antagonist or Adversary as effectually as possible & shew them that all their Arguments have been also duly considered & regarded, I could wish that His Ldp would permit you to submit the whole Book herewith sent (containing a true State of the Revenue Laws &c from the first Settlement of the Province to the present time, some Addresses from the Lower House & Report of their Committee concerning them & the late Governors Answers) to some Lawyer for His Opinion which if returned me before the Assembly meet again might if then thought necessary be laid before them to be entered at large in the Journal of their proceedings & recorded for the Satisfaction & Conviction of them & Posterity. But this Matter I humbly submit to His Lordship & yourself that such Steps may be taken therein as to you shall seem proper. I am sorry to find that Mr Steuart still persists in his Clamours against the Act made in July 1754 that imposes a Duty on Servants. I have writ to the Naval Officers & cautioned them against collecting or receiving any Duties that are not imposed by Acts of Parliament or Assembly, but I doubt they will scarcely decline collecting the Duty of 20/ p Poll on every Convict imported that shall be sold for Seven years as they seem to think themselves obliged by their Oath to collect such Duty. Had I forbid them in positive Terms to forbear Collecting it, t'would have shewn that I knew they had already done so & I could not have recommended it to the Assembly to repeal that Part of the Act without discovering a Consciousness of the Duty's being imposed contrary to an Act of Parliament, besides I am throughly convinced that if I had desired it or seemed vastly anxious to have the Clause repealed t'would have given the Lower House some Degree of Satisfaction as they would have concluded that the Govern^{t} was distressed
p. 208 about it. however I have taken Care to have it excepted in the Bill that is now passed & hope that will be enough to satisfy Mr Steuart, if it does not & His Ldp thinks that it will involve him in the least trouble or difficulty, I see no Cause why he should not dissent to the Act & give the Attorney General's Opinion as his Reason for so doing. A considerable Part of the £6000 is already raised, & as the other Funds will I beleive raise the Money before the time limited for sinking the Paper Money if the Assembly will upon His Ldp's dissenting to this continue them by another Law, I do not apprehend that the Province will receive any prodigious Detriment from His Ldp's Dissent, but Mr Steuart may be assured that the

Inhabitants will resent such Conduct in him & I am persuaded Letter Bk. I.
he will in a few years have little reason to applaud himself for
the Warmth he has shewn on this Occasion. In your Letter
dated the 25 of Oct[r] You were pleased to recommend it to me
to make some Provision for M[r] Wolstenholme by any place of
about £100 a year which might suit his Situation, I am satis-
fied M[r] Wolstenholme is well convinced that I should never
want inclination to do him Service was it in my power. I have
offered him a Sheveralty the only Office almost you know that
I can have an Opportunity of giving but he has always declined
accepting it; for my part I know no place that can suit him
unless it be a Naval Office & I submit it entirely to yourself
whether in case of any Vacancy he shall be appointed to one of
them. As Gover[r] Dobbs informs me that all the Troops which
have been raised in North Carolina have by Gen[l] Shirley's
Desire been transported by water to New York, as the Pens[a]
Assembly have not & will not grant any more Supplies & as
the Act lately passed in this Province directs that none of the
£25,000 granted for carrying on an Expedition shall be emitted
or used unless both the Provinces of Virg[a] & Pens[a] will furnish
or engage to furnish their respective & proportionable Quota's
of Men & money for that Service, I give over all thoughts of
seeing any Expedition undertaken or carryed on in these parts
against our common Enemy this year & am therefore preparing
to set off for the Frontiers to put this province in the best
posture of Defence that the Bill will permit me & to construct p. 209
a strong Fort on the North Mountain at least to oversee for a
while & put the Officers in such a way & give them such
Directions as will enable them to compleat it in the best manner
& render it most defensible; This Journey of mine I think the
more necessary as Engineers or persons of Military Experience
& Skill are not to be found in this part of the World & as
Fort Cumberland & the little places of Defence that have been
built in the two Neighbouring Colonies are by no means such
as I would have built on the Frontiers of this Province. The
Virginians have I hear at length determined by Drafts from
the Militia to compleat the Regiment that has been so long
raising & does not yet consist of 500 Men. It might be hoped
that when full the said Regiment will be able to prevent such
frequent Incursions into that Province but I beleive if they had
determined to raise twice the Number of Men by Drafts from
the Militia their Commander would not do much Execution in
the Enemy's Country or beyond the Mountains at least for this
Summer. We are told that all the Regiments & Troops to
the Northward are in Motion towards the places of their
respective Destination but as it is said that the Regulars are
far from compleat & that the Commissaries or Somebody have

Letter Bk. I. been a little dilitory in filling the Magazines I am not without fears that the Event of this Campaign will not be quite agreeable to our wishes unless the Succours expected from England or Ireland shall speedily arrive—

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

27th of May 1756.

Dr Br

I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of a Letter you favoured me with the 1st of Iany but as I have writ a long Letter to Br Wm that might serve as an answer to it I shall at present take no farther Notice thereof than to offer & desire you to accept my most grateful Acknowledgments for your kind anxiety & generous Endeavours to promote & serve me beyond what I could desire ask or expect. After sitting 13 Weeks both Houses of our Assembly have agreed on & I have passed an Act for granting the Sum of £40,000 Currency or £25,000 Sterlg for His Majesty's Service. Eleven of the forty are appropriated to build & support a Fort on the North Mountain at present our Westernmost Frontier tho more than 60 Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland & as many to the Eastward of some Settlements that our People had made before these Disturbances happened & continued on some time after General Braddock's Defeat, to Garrison this Fort & range on the Frontiers two Companies of 100 Men each are to be raised & kept up till next February. The Remainder of the Money granted is to be expended in carrying on an Expedition to the westward & in making Presents to the Southern Indians, but as the latter is not to be done unless the Neighbouring Governments appoint Commissioners to treat with & make presents to the Indians also, nor any Troops to be raised in this Province for an Expedition till I have received Assurances from Governors Dinwiddie & Morris that their respective Assemblies will grant a proportionable & reasonable Quota of Men & Money for that Service I am apt to think that the whole Sum granted except the £11000 abovementioned will remain in Bank till I convene the Assembly again next Spring. I do not apprehend that any part of the Supply Bill will be disagreeable or objected to by His Lordship unless it be a Clause which imposes the same Tax on His Ldp's Mannour Lands & such others as are leased out as it does on the Lands which have been granted away or patented by the Lords Proprietary & are held & occupied by the Inhabitants of this Province. As I have some reason to think that your good Services will be absolutely necessary to reconcile His Lordsp to this Bill tho in fact the

Preservation of His Province & Tenants much depended on its Letter Bk. III
being passed I will give you as particular an Account as possible of our Situation & the Circumstances that induced me to give it my Assent & hope I shall suggest some Arguments to you that may be urged in my Iustification. You know that I have several times met, but in vain pressed the Assembly to grant Supplies because His Ldp peremptorily forbad me to let the Ordinary Lycence Fines be mentioned as one of the Funds for sinking the money; to the Dispute concerning them you are no Stranger, therefore I shall only observe that they were mortgaged in the late War to repay some Money that was then granted towards carrying on the Expedition agst Carthagena & the intended one against Canada & that they still remain mortgaged for the payment of that money. The Assembly knew that His Ldp was averse to their being again appropriated otherwise than to his own private Use & therefore made a point of mortgaging them for a longer term. This Resolution of theirs & His Ldp's Instructions above mentioned had occasioned five fruitless Sessions & much exasperated the people agst My Ld & his Govern^{t} Upon the Receipt of Instructions last winter to wave that matter I again convened the Assembly & laying before them the plan of Operations concerted at New York once more exhorted them to exert themselves & grant large Supplies. As to the Quantum they seemed to Comply with my Requisition by voting £40,000 for the Services I had desired them to provide for, but as some of the Leading Men in the House were averse to giving more than a small Sum for the immediate protection of our own Frontiers tho they could not directly oppose the Vote & Sentiments of a great Majority yet as it is a new & difficult Matter to raise large Sums in this Province, t'was easy for them to get such Funds proposed & insisted on for raising the Money as would damn the Bill & they hoped that by such a Step a Clamour would be raised agst the Govern^{t} or that the Sum voted might afterwards be reduced & made as small as themselves wished & desired. Accordingly when a Committee of Ways & Means was appointed & Orders given for framing a Bill among other exceptionable Matters a Land Tax was proposed by these Gent^{n} & that all His Ldp's Mannours & Reserved Lands should be subjected to the payment of it as his Tenants the Inhabitants Lands are was carried by a great Majority. You may be assured the flaming Patriots or rather inflaming Demagogues on this Occasion made great Use of the Arguments that have by the Pensilvanians been urged to M^{r} Morris; in short at the End of 7 weeks the Bill made its Appearance & was sent to the Upper House in such a Form as was expected & was by them returned again after some

Letter Bk. III Days with a negative & their Objections in writing to many Parts of it. A Conference was afterwards agreed on by both Houses & after a warm Engagement between the Conferees that lasted above a week the principal Obstacles were removed & the Bill assented to. The Burgesses had at first as I before hinted insisted that all His Ldp's mannour & Reserved Lands should be made liable to the Tax & none exempted but such as remain still vacant; but to give you a clear Idea of what is meant by Mannour, Reserved & Vacant Lands it will perhaps be necessary to inform you that at times the Lords Proprietaries or their Governors have on an Appearance of Copper or other Ores or on Account of the extraordinary Fertility of the Soil or their Contiguity to Towns or His Ldp's Mannour's ordered a Reserve to be entered on certain Tracts of Land, or in other words forbad those Officers who are impowered to sell grant or make away such Tracts on any Consideration whatever; these differ from the Mannour Lands in this that the latter are regularly & properly surveyed & the Description & Bounds of them entered in the publick Records, but the Reserved Lands have never been surveyed or laid out, are not distinguished or known by proper Names as the Mannours are but are in the Records described only in general Terms or words "as all the Land that lies between such & such Hills or Rivers or between two Roads for its Breadth & so many Miles for its Length &c" however parts or Parcells of these Reserves are leased & His Ldp's Agent receives Rent for the same as he does for those parts of the Mannours that are let to Tenants. Lands that are unoccupied or have never been taken up but are by His Ldp's Land Officers to be sold to any that will purchase them at the Common Rates are called Vacant Lands, from such His Ldp receives no immediate Revenue & Profit, neither did our Assembly offer to burthen them tho the Pensilvanians had endeavoured to make their Proprietaries vacant Lands liable to the Tax that was proposed to be laid in that Province. Upon the Conference that I have already mentioned the Lower House receeded from what they had at first insisted on so far, that instead of Taxing All His Ldp's Reserved Lands they agreed that only those Parts of them that are actually leased out & pay Rent to His Ldp shall be made liable & that the Rest shall be deemed vacant & exempted Accordingly, but the whole mannours according to the true Contents of each whether tenanted or unoccupied are subjected to the payment of the Tax, in the same manner & form that the Inhabitants' Lands are, I think the Annual Rents that His Ldp receives from such Parts of his mannour & Reserved Lands as are leased amount to about £$\frac{800}{900}$, & it is supposed that His Ldp's Proportion of the Tax imposed will in the five years for which

the Act is to endure be about £400 Currency. As many of Letter Bk. III
the Back Inhabitants abandoned their Plantations on Account
of the Incursions of the Indians & the unhappy distracted &
defenceless Condition of the Province deterred people from
taking up Land or making Settlements as usual His Ldp's
Revenue from Lands was £1600 less last year than in the
preceeding, the Interest of which as His Ldp's Agent rightly
observes is more than his proportion of the Tax at present
imposed will amount to. Had the Assembly broke up at
this time without making some Provision for the Defence &
Security of the Frontiers it is more than probable, that the
Western Settlements for a great many Miles in Extent would
within these twelve Months have been deserted & thereby His
Ldp must necessarily have lost at least the Quit Rents of such
Lands which would be considerable, & besides scarcely any
purchasers would be found for Lands in the more populous
parts of the Province & that Fountain of Wealth would be
stopped & His Ldp's Land Office in effect shut up till the
Conclusion of this American War or the Reduction of Fort Du
Quesne & the Ohio Indians should render people's property
more secure. Was His Ldp's Case my own I am sure I should
never have hesitated a moment to contribute my Share with
the people to defend the province & annoy the Enemy, & I
am well convinced that if His Ldp had been on the Spot He
would have suffered his Estate to be much more burthened
than I have done; but as His Ldp might possibly in England
think very differently from what He would in America I am
not without some Apprehensions that this Step which at the
Importunity of his Friends I have taken will be censured as a
culpable Concession & subversive of His Ldp's Rights & pre-
rogatives as I was afraid after what happened in Pensilvania
last Summer between Gover^r Morris & his Assembly that our
People would as usual follow the Quakers Example I sent all
their Messages Addresses &c to M^r Calvert, acquainted him
with my Fears & desired His Ldp's particular Instructions for
my Conduct in Case the Assembly of this Province should on
their being pressed to grant Supplies follow the Track that
their Neighbours had marked out for them. Tho I have
received Instructions from My Lord on other Matters since my
Letters got home yet he has favoured me with none on that
Subject, but M^r Calvert in a Letter that I have lately received
from him says "His Ldp does not doubt of your following &
guarding against any Invasion on His Rights similar in your
Defence on His behalf as Governor Morris has done for the
Proprietors of Pensilvania." by this I understand that His
Ldp is absolutely ag^st my suffering His Estate or property to
be subjected to any Burthen or Tax on any Account or Con-

Letter Bk. III sideration whatever; but if that be His Ldp's Sense & Resolution why should he not have sent me a particular & peremptory Instruction to that purpose? t'was what I sollicited & it would have removed all my Scruples or Difficulties, perhaps it would have been impolitick & prejudicial to His Ldp's Interest, it might have given Rise to Clamours & inclined the people to make Representations or Remonstrances, They may possibly have called me in the Stile of the Pensilvanians an Odious Instrument but yet I should have been no longer in uncertainty, & as it is not thought expedient in such times as these to leave any thing to the Discretion of a Governor or His Council Laws should be given for their Guidance & Direction that knowing their Duty they may act agreeable thereto. When I saw there was some Probability of the Bills' passing both Houses of Assembly I laid before His Ldp's Council Extracts of my Letters to His Ldp & M^r^ Calvert relative to the Pensilvania Disputes together with M^r^ Calvert's Answer thereto & desired them to consult & advise me thereon. This Caution the Importance of the Affair made necessary & I presume their Advice will be in some Sort my Iustification. They were Unanimously of Opinion if the Bill should in other Respects be found unexceptionable, or so agreeable as that I would not reject it on any other Account that I ought not to refuse Enacting it into a Law merely because a small Tax was to be thereby imposed on His Ldp's Mannours & demised Lands: His Ldp's Agent spoke what is above said concerning £1600, lost or deficient last year & insisted that if Regard was to be had to His Ldp's pecuniary Interest The Bill should not be objected to. by some t'was argued that the matter in question was not similar to that which had been the Cause of Contention in Pensilvania; that there was a wide Difference between a pound Tax as was proposed in Pens^a^ & a Land Tax as was about to be laid here; that the Pensilvanians had insisted on the Proprietaries personal & real Estate in the Province being assessed & taxed according to its Value estimated by such Assessors as the People should elect; that the Contents of His Ldp's Mannours & demised Lands were known & recorded & that therefore no Injustice could be done him by partial Assessors or Collectors. that it was evident the Members of the Lower House being for the most part remote from Danger would not let the Lives of a few Inhabitants come in Competition with their Schemes & Views, & that if no Concession was to be made on either Side, this province would be as unhappy & wretched as that where all the Inhabitants should class Self-Defence among the Crimina Majora; that from Mess^rs^ Penns having made the Province or People of Pens^a^ a present of £5000 there was room to suspect

that Governor Morris had pushed Matters farther than was Letter Bk. III
desired by his Superiours, or perhaps than was agreeable to the
Ministry or Parliament; that in case His Ldp was to be
entirely excused or exempted from the Tax He would be as it
were obliged to contribute something towards putting his Prov-
ince in a better posture of Defence & that it would be incon-
sistent with his Dignity to offer so little as His proportion of
the Tax would amount to. that no Danger or Injury to His
Ldp would ensue from the Precedent because if it was by
Iudges at home thought an illegal or unreasonable Act His
Ldp might for the future send positive Orders to the contrary,
& by evincing the impropriety of it prevent the Assembly's
ever making a similar proposition or Attempt hereafter, upon
these Considerations & with the Council's Advice I have ven-
tured to assent to the Bill & have herewith transmitted it for
His Ldp's perusal & Approbation—I said I did not apprehend
any other Part of the Bill will be objected to by His Ldp, but
really I am at a Loss to guess what Reception a Clause of it
that imposes a double Tax on the Lands of Roman Catholicks
will meet with at home. At times I have received such Letters
as inclined me to think it would be very disagreeable to His
Ldp in the least to distress or abridge them of their Liberties
& Privileges, but as I have lately received a full & positive
Instruction dated the 27th of Oct 1755 directing & requiring me
to put several Parts of the Penal Statutes in force against
them I think I can never be blamed for assenting to their
Lands being doubly taxed, especially as they are excused
mustering in the Militia, & as it is no more than is every year
done in England. however some of the principal of them who
have large Tracts of Land look on the Imposition as a grievous
Burthen & would fain have prevailed on me to reject the Bill
purely on that Account. As the Members of the Lower
House would not have heard of such an Amendment to the
Bill but on the Contrary have thence taken occasion to charge
the Govt with countenancing & encouraging Popery they were
never desired to lessen the Tax but I beleive some Attempt
will be made by the papists to get the Act dissented to, or at
least to get me instructed & enjoined to oppose & prevent
such unequal Taxation for the future. Soon after General
Shirley sent me a Commission to take the Command of all the
Forces that should be raised in these Southern Colonies for an
Expedition to the Westward he informed me that he had writ
to Governor Dobbs to send the Troops that should be raised
in his Governt to join me & act under my Command but
about a week ago I received a Lettr from Governor Dobbs
advising me that agreeable to General Shirley's Desire he had
sent the four Companies that his Assembly had impowered

Letter Bk. III him to raise to New York by water, & that he had also ordered thither the few Carolinians that have since last Iuly remained in Garrison at Fort Cumberland. The Pensilvanians neither have nor will by what I can learn grant any more Supplies nor contribute towards carrying on any Expedition to the Westward & as none of the Money which our People have appropriated to that Service is to be used or emitted till both Virg[a] & Pensilvania have furnished or engaged to furnish their respective & proportionable quotas, the General's Commission & Instructions to me might have been spared for without Men or Money Arms, Ammunition or Provisions I do not think that even His Excellency himself could much annoy the Enemy or reduce their Forts. The Virginians have at length I hear resolved to compleat the Regiment they have vainly endeavoured by other methods to raise with Drafts from the Militia. This Measure it is hoped will be attended with the Consequences they expect & enable Col[o] Washington to protect pretty well the Frontiers of Virg[a] but I presume he will not advance with them into the Enemy's Country nor promise to act offensively much this Season. Affairs in America generally speaking remain in much the same Situation that they were in the 3[d] Inst. The Troops to the Northward are in motion but by what I can learn the Regulars are very far from being compleat; & it has been hinted to me by an Officer at Albany whose Experience & Iudgment I have a great Opinion of, that we shall have good Reason to sing Te Deum at the Conclusion of this Campaign if Matters are not then in a worse Situation than they are at present. I intend to proceed to the Frontiers next Monday or Tuesday to give Orders about constructing the Fort & Block Houses that are to be built there, & as the Officers are all Novices I beleive I shall tarry there with them three Weeks or a Month unless any extraordinary Occurrence should make my Return hither before that time expedient & necessary—

I am &c

[Sharpe to Fox.]

31[st] of May 1756.

Right Hon[ble]

I now do myself the honour to acquaint you that agreeable to my Expectations expressed in my Lett[r] of the 3[d] Inst. Our Assembly have prepared & I have passed an Act for granting a Supply of about £25,000 St[g] for His Majesty's Service, near £7000 of it is particularly appropriated to build a Fort on our Western Frontiers & for supporting 200 Men to range & cover the Inhabitants the Rest is directed to be

applied to support such Troops as it shall be thought proper to Letter Bk. III
raise in this province to act in Conjunction with those that may be raised in the neighbouring Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward & is made liable to the Drafts or Orders of the Officer that shall be appointed to command on such Expedition. As all the Men which have been raised in N Carolina are transported to N York & the Pensilvanians continue averse to granting any Supplies for the abovementioned Service the Money will remain in our Treasury till the Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces in America shall signify his pleasure concerning the Disposal of it. I do not hear that any Mischief has been lately done on the Frontiers of this & the two Neighbouring Colonies nor that any parties of Indians have been for some time discovered on this Side Fort Cumberland. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

31st of May 1756

Sr

Inclosed I send you an Extract from a Law which we have at length with great Difficulty made for granting a Supply of £40,000 for His Majesty's Service. As I have lately been advised by Governor Dobbs that all the Troops which he has been enabled to raise are by General Shirley's Order transported to N York & the Pensilvanians still remain averse to Action I should be of Your Opinion as to the impracticability of our acting offensively in these parts tho our Assembly had given me a greater Latitude with respect to the £25,000, than they have thought proper. I hope the Voluntier association you speak of will have a good Effect & animate the lower Class of People who in both these Colonies seem to stand in need of some extraordinary Incitements. I have not heard of the Arrival of Lord Loudon or any other Officers as yet but I earnestly hope the Troops will arrive time enough to act in Conjunction with those that are moving towards Ontario for I have been lately informed that none of the Regulars are compleat & I doubt not but the French will be strong this Summer on the Lakes. I hope & flatter myself you will be able when your Regiment is full to prevent such frequent Incursions of the Indians into Virginia; I am about to proceed to the North Mountain which is to be our extreem Limit to put our Frontiers also into a better posture of Defence & to have a Fort constructed there agreeable to our Act of Assembly. I am &c

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Loudon.]

31st of May 1756—

My Ld.

As I entertain the most sanguine hopes that your Ldp's safe arrival in America will very shortly give us room to congratulate your Ldp & Ourselves, I take the Liberty to wish your Ldp all felicity & Success in your Undertakings, & to acquaint you with the present Condition of the Province under my Care, But as Govern^r^ Dinwiddie informs me that a Gent^n^ of the Council of Virg^a^ will wait on your Ldp immediately on your arrival & represent the Situation of Affairs in this part of His Majesty's Dominions, I shall avoid prolixity & only mention such Matters as my Duty seems more particularly to require— The latter End of Feb^y^ His Excellency Gen^l^ Shirley was pleased to send me a Commission & Instructions to take the Command of all the Forces that should be raised in these Southern Colonies for an Expedition to the Westward or against Fort Du Quesne this Summer & desired that I would recommend it to the Assembly of this Province to grant their quota of Men to act in Conjunction with such as he had asked & as he hoped the Neighbouring Colonies would raise for that purpose. Our Assembly have accordingly granted £15,700 St^g^ to raise & support Troops for such Service but as it is not to be appropriated or used unless the other Colonies shall contribute their respective Proportions; & as Govern^r^ Dobbs advises me that he has according to General Shirley's Desire sent all the Men which he has been enabled to raise in Carolina to N York, & the Pensilvanians are averse to granting any Supplies, No Expedition can possibly be carried on here agreeable to the General's Instructions, I am therefore in Compliance with the Request of our Assembly about to proceed towards the Western Frontiers of this Province to have a Fort constructed there for the better Security of the Inhabitants, which is to be garrisoned with 200 Men that are raising for that Service. Your Ldp I presume already knows or will be informed by Col^o^ Ludwell that on Potowmack within this Province & about 60 Miles beyond our present Settlements there is a Fort which according to a late Return of the Commanding Officer is garrisoned with about 200 Men from the Regiment that has been raising in Virginia. inclosed I send your Ldp a Return of His Majesty's Stores that have remained there ever since Col^o^ Dunbar marched thence to Phil^a^ last Summer. As there was a Necessity of having the Powder shifted & the Casks trimmed to prevent its spoiling I lately gave Orders to the person that was left by the Commanding Officer of the Train at Fort Cumberland to take Care of those Stores, to get it done & to draw

for the Amount of the Expence that might attend it on the Paymaster to His Majesty's Train in America, but as the Stores & especially the Powder is for want of a proper Magazine in a good deal of Danger from the Enemy I submit to your Ldp whether it would not be better to have it removed down to the inhabited part of the Country till there shall be an immediate Use for it. Besides the Stores mentioned in the inclosed Return there were in the Custody of one M^r^ Carlyle in Virg^a^ 587 Barrels of Irish Beef, 230 Barrells of Irish Butter & 21 Barrells of Flour but as some Troops that I have kept up for the Protection of our Back Inhabitants ever since Col^o^ Dunbar left us were some time since much distressed for provisions before I was impowered by the Assembly to supply them I ventured to draw on M^r^ Carlyle for 100 Barrells of the Beef & I hear that the Rest is removed to Winchester a Town on the Frontiers of Virg^a^ for the use of the Militia that Governor Dinwiddie has ordered thither for the People's Defence. Letter Bk. III

I am &c

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

1^st^ of Iune 1756—

D^r^ B^r^

I have in a former Lett^r^ intimated that there are several Matters about which Disputes have subsisted many years between the Ld Proprietary & the People of this Province which have & will (till they are determined) prevent any harmony or Union between the several Branches of the Legislature at this time particularly so desirable & requisite & which therefore we should unanimously study to bring about & promote. The two principal Bones of Contention or Matters in Dispute are a Port Duty of Fourteen Pence a Ton on all Vessels owned by Non Residents that trade to this Province, & an Imposition of One Shilling a Hogshead on all Tob^o^ exported; The first amounts to about £800 or £900 St^g^ p Ann. which is received by His Ldp for his own private Use; The latter does rarely exceed £1400 in one year the greater part of which is paid by His Ldp's Agent to His Lieut Gover^r^ by way of an annual Sallary & the Remainder is paid to His Ldp himself. The People have been instructed & made to beleive that these Duties are collected illegally, they have been taught to look on it as a grievous Burthen & Oppression & to take Occasion thence to clamour against His Ldp's Govern^t^ Attempts have been made by the Lower Houses of Assembly to obtain a Sum of Money, or an Act for the Appointment of an Agent to bring the Matter to a Hearing before His Majesty in Council, but the Lord Proprietaries have always

Letter Bk. III used their Influence & Interest to oppose such a Measure; whether this proceeded from Timidity or a Suspicion that the Governm^{t} would not be able to make good its Claim I cannot say but it certainly has much contributed to confirm many People in an Opinion that the Money is actually collected contrary to, or at least without the Sanction of a Law. As it is very obvious what must be the Consequence of their entertaining such Sentiments I shall not enlarge thereon, but only inclose you a Copy of a Paper which has been lately handed about here & I am told subscribed by a great number of the People, for my own part I am throughly convinced that their Complaints with regard to those particulars are unreasonable & entirely without foundation & that if His Ldp had but Resolution enough to let the matter be brought to a Hearing before the Council such a Iudgment would be given or Order made as would give His Ldp Satisfaction, make the people easy & at the same time make them cautious how they engage in Controversy hereafter. They are not apprized of all that can be said in Support of His Ldp's Claim, & a Report of a Committee of a late Lower House of Assembly shews in my Opinion that they would have very little to advance or urge agst him. Upon my mentioning the unhappy Condition of the Province on Account of these Disputes to M^{r} Calvert he seemed to give me hopes that His Ldp would be willing to bring them to a Conclusion, but His Ldp in His Instructions peremptorily forbids me to hear any proposal concerning the Appointment of an Agent for that purpose. however as I foresee that I shall when the Assembly meets again be addressed on this Subject, I have got an Account or State of the several Revenue Laws (that have been enacted from time to time) made out & have sent it to M^{r} Calvert desiring him at least to get an Opinion thereon for me, which would possibly have weight with the Assembly & perhaps satisfy them as to the Collection of the Duties abovementioned. Should M^{r} Calvert for fear of the Expence that will attend it, or on any other Account decline or neglect to comply with my Request Let me beg the favour of you to peruse the Copy that I herewith send, & if you do not get an Opinion subscribed by the Attorney or Sollicitor Gen^{l} I hope you will favour me with your own Sentiments thereon. The Account or State might have been much abridged was it only drawn up for the Opinion of a Lawyer or for the Perusal of Persons of Learning or Judgment, but as it was thought proper to adapt it to the Capacity & Comprehension of every Planter in the Province it's Length or Prolixity was unavoidable & necessary to prevent its being suggested that the Quotations were unfair & imperfect, that any material Parts were suppressed or partial Representations

made. As I shall be under a necessity of meeting the Assembly again in the winter I should be exceedingly obliged to you for returning it if possible before that time that I may be prepared for a Dispute which seems unavoidable I am &c— Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Board of Trade.]

Iune the 2d 1756.

Rt Honble

I do myself the honour to inform you that the Assembly of this Province has lately granted the Sum of £40000 Currency for His Majesty's Service, to be laid out & applied in the following manner, £11.000 in Constructing a Fort or Forts just beyond our Western Settlements & in paying cloathing & victualing 200 Men that are to be raised to garrison the Same & to patroll on the Frontiers. £3000 in presents or otherwise to engage the Assistance & cultivate the Friendship of the Southern Indians in case either of the Neighbouring Colonies shall think proper to send Commissioners in Conjunction with some from this Province to treat with them. £1000 to be given as a Reward or Bounty to such as shall act offensively against our Indian Enemies & produce their Scalps in testimony of their having so done. And the Remaining £25,000 in carrying on any Expedition that shall be undertaken by this Province for His Majesty's Service in conjunction with the Governments of Virga Pensa & North Carolina. The last mentioned Sum is made payable to the Orders of the Officer who shall command on any such Expedition but as the Troops that have been raised in North Carolina are all transported to New York & the Pensilvanians hitherto continue averse to granting any farther Supplies it will remain in our Treasury till the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in America to whom I have writ thereon shall signify his pleasure concerning the Disposal of it. The Number of Men that are allowed for the immediate Protection of our own Frontiers will I beleive be raised in a few Days, when I propose to proceed to the Western Parts of the Province to give the necessary Orders for constructing the Forts & for putting that part of the Country in a better Posture of Defence. Some of our Back Inhabitants who lately advanced about 40 miles beyond Fort Cumberland fell in with some Parties of the Enemy & returned with some Scalps, indeed they lost some men but as considerable Rewards are now given to such Adventurers or Voluntiers in all these Colonies I hope the Love of Money if no other motive will incite many to follow their Example, & thereby make the Indians more cautious how

Letter Bk. III they venture down to injure the Inhabitants. I have not heard that any of them have been lately discovered on this Side Fort Cumberland nor do I learn that any Mischief has been lately done by them on the Frontiers of either of the Neighbouring Colonies—

Original. [Hardy to Sharpe.]

Fort George New York 4th Iune 1756

Sir./

As I hope this will find you returned from your Progress in the back Countrys, I now send you what Informations I have received from Fort Iohnson since my last.

The intended meeting at Onondago, has been long doubtfull, the Mohawks very much against Sir William Johnson's going there, on the 12. of last Month he held a conference with them and several other Indians, when they gave him their reasons for objecting to his going up to Onondago, founded principally upon the length of the Iourney, and the Danger their Castles might be subject to during their absence, as they were determined to attend him, and concluded with desiring him to Summon them to a general meeting at his House, upon the receipt of this Conferrence, I found Sir William Iohnson had acquiesed with their reasons for his not going, but declined calling them together at Fort Iohnson as they desired, as he expected soon to meet them at Onondago. Upon considering the whole of this matter, and finding the Meeting at Onondago quit put off, and the present State of Indian Affairs, I was of opinion it was absolutely necessary, to have a general meeting of the Six Nations, and as I had leisure to attend that service to give them his Majesty's present together with the addition made to it by this Province, which I have been disappointed in, from the frequent Allarms this Spring that has obliged the Indians to remain at their Castles, or attend Johnson in his Marches, and lastly from this expected Meeting at Onondago.

Many reasons urged me to it, first to make them the present, and Ultimately to know their disposition to Act vigorously in Conjunction with us against the French, to endeavour if possible to bring them to Act sincerly with their Nephews the Delawares and Shawonese, and their other Dependants by obliging them to lay down the Hatchet against the English, or to punish them on their refusal, and as it would require at least thirty days to bring them down, Lord Louden would probably be arrived before that time, when he might have an oppertunity of meeting them at the same time and by it know

what dependance he might have on any of their Castles joining him, on the Services he may undertake, and we might also know what Indians woud join the Crown Point Expedition, the uncertainty of General Shirley's going to Oswego, before the Arrival of the Commander in Chief gave me reason to think calling them together could not interfere with the Meeting he proposed holding with them there.

As I judged it necessary for his Majesty's Service to have this General Meeting as early as possible I sent an Express to Sir William Iohnson, and desired him to consult with the two Mohawk Castles and any other Indians he might have with him, and propose this meeting to them and if he found them inclined to it, and that it would not be inconvenient to the more distant Castles to send to them, and appoint the time for their coming down to Albany or Schenectady, and to give me the earliest notice that I might be up in time. By the same express I wrote to General Shirley and gave him my opinion and reasons for calling the Indians together, and desired he woud consider them, and give Iohnson his opinion upon it, my Express is not yet returned but since I sent him, I have received a Letter from Sir William of the twenty third May Inclosing an Extract of a Speech made him by a principal Oneida Sachem, a Copy of which I here inclose you, the latter part relates principally to a person living in your Government whose conduct I dont doubt you will enquire into, I find the Indians are full of Complaints against people of this M^{c}Kees cast, who take great pains in going among the Indians to Stir up their Iealously, forging strange Accounts, and Magnifying the strength of the French, to such a degree, that must intimidate them, Sir William Iohnson acquaints me in this Letter that M^{r} Hawley a Missionary to the Aughquage Indians informs him "that there are a great number of Deserters from M^{r} Shirleys and Sir William Pepperell's Regiments who keep up and down the Susquahannah, and do a World of Mishief by their malicious lyes amongst the Indians, there are several of them among the six nations and endeavour to set them against the English, One very lately got to Oneida and not only endeavoured to enflame those Indians against the English, who he told them were determined to cut them all off, but advised them now Oswego was short of Provisions, to destroy the Communication to that Garrison, he put the Oneidas into such a ferment that Canaghquayeson (the Sachem who made the Inclosed Speech) came down to me chiefly to enquire into these matters, and to give me this Information."

I hope General Shirley upon the above representation that Iohnson has made him, will offer handsome rewards to the Indians to take up and carry to the Garrisons all those desert-

ers; many of these Villains are Papists and Fellows of abandoned Principles; the Indians are easily alarmed and imposed on by plausible storys, and while we have so many Armaments on foot round them, will be extreamly prone to Suspicion. I hope you will endeavour to get those Fellows apprehended that may be harbouring on the Susquahannah, for I don't doubt but they may greatly contribute to draw upon us the Hostilities of the Delawares and Shawonese. Sir William Iohnson has this further account in his Letter that I judge highly proper to inform you of Viz: A Delaware Indian who was at the Lake with me last year, came here yesterday, he tells me he was lately at Tiahoga and Otsiningo, upon the Susquahannah, that he thinks the Indians at Tiaogo are (to use his own words) but badly inclined towards the English Interest, That a great Man a Delaware Indian came while he was there from the Ohio in order to seduce the Indians upon the Susquahannah to leave that part of the Country and go and live upon the Ohio and join the French against the English, he told them that there was a great Number of the French and Indians there, having 3 Gunsmiths constantly at work making and repairing of Arms and that great preparations are on foot to make a descent upon some of the English Colonies, the Ohio Indians applied to this Informant, and persuaded him to go and join the French and he woud become a great Warrior, Our Indian told him, he was a Warrior already and the Coat he had on his back, he had taken from a French Indian who he had killed last year at Lake George upon which the Ohio Indian he says seem'd disconcerted, and sorry he had spoke so plain before him. "I have also had some private conversation with a Seneca Sachem called Old Belt, who came with the half King from the Southward, I find him to be a very sedate sencible Man and warmly attached to our Interest, I asked him his opinion about the Western Indians coming to Oswego this Year, he told me he was well acquainted with those Indians, and the Situation of their Affairs and had not been long ago amongst them he says since M^{r} Braddocks defeat at the Ohio the French Indian Interest is greatly strengthned, that the Twightwees, Ienundactees and some of the Chikasawas, who were in opposition to the French, and inclined to the English Interest were intimidated from any further opposition to the French and were now under their Influence, The French have them says he under their Arms, and they must do as they please, therefore Brother says he I do not think any of them will come to Oswego, as to the Missisagas part of them I believe are as yet determined to Act with the Five Nations and may come to Oswego. Last night the Messengers returned from Onondago, none of the Southern Indians were yet come, but I find they have sent for

them and expect them by the beginning of next month, they are pressing for my being there by that time in a manner almost peremptory. "they say there are many reports to the prejudice of the English coming daily to them from all Quarters, which produce a great deal of uneasiness, and that nothing but my coming up will put things on a footing of Tranquility that they look upon a General Meeting of the Six Nations and their Allies to be absolutely necessary at this critical Iuncture, I am therefore preparing for the Iourney so as to be there in time, All the Mohawks of both Castles say they will go with me, and have desired their Forts may be reinforced during their absence, and say that this part of the Country will lye very much exposed to the Enemy, and are afraid some Attack will be made upon it, I have communicated this request and opinion to General Shirley. By the aforesaid Messengers the Onondagas have sent me the following Message, Tell our Brother Warraghigagay that since we took the Hatchet from the Shawones and Delaware Indians they have told us that there is an Army of the English coming against them, and that they think it unreasonable and unnatural for us to hold them in our Arms, and prevent their defending themselves when People were just at their backs to destroy them. We are informed the English are Building a Fort at Shamokin, we can't comprehend the method of making War, which is made use of by our Brethren the English, when we go to War our manner is to destroy a Nation & there is an end of it

The English chiefly regard Building Forts, which looks as if their only scheme was to take Poscession of the Lands.

Thus Sir I have given you all the Indian Intelligence I am Master of. From the sudden Change and Resolution of Iohnsons going to Onondago, my meeting the Indians is like to be suspended, unless my Express gets time enough to alter their Measures, if it should I shall acquaint you, and you will Judge it right to have Deputies there.

The Army referred to in the Message from the Onondagas must mean Coll° Clapham with your Forces, which when explaind to them by Johnson, will clar up that matter, and remove any suspicions they may have taken of being hurt by them; I have frequently wrote to Johnson to get the Delawares to Explain what they meant by insisting on your delivering up of all Prisoners as a Preliminary to Peace, and find they had taken up a notion that all the River Indians settled in this Colony and New Jersey were held as Prisoners, but when they are undeceivd, and find those Indians are all or most of them, gone to settle with the Mohawks, I hope it will give a good turn in their disposition to us.

June 5th

Since I wrote the above I have receivd your Letters with the several Papers Inclosd, which I will forward if Possible this Afternoon, but I doubt if time enough to meet Johnson, as I am just now informed that he most probably left home for Onondaga before my Express reached him, however will desire Mr Shirley to send them after him by Express.

I think it is very clear if we do not Act Vigorously and Exert ourselves in all Quarters the French will secure great part of the Indians, and I fear the whole of them to the Southward, to Prevent which I could wish the Southern Colonys would undertake another Expedition to Fort Du Quesne, or any other Post on the Ohio, as should be Judged most proper if preperations were made for such a Service, I should hope Lord Lowden on his Arrival, when he might have the state of things laid before him particularly with respect to the Indian Interest, would have, no difficulty of joining the Provincials with a sufficient Body of Regulars, such a scheme Vigorously prosecuted appears to me to be the only one that can secure to the English the Fidelity of the Southern Indians, and indeed the Settlements and Country of the Southern Colonys; if this year be lost the french will be strongly Fortifyed and make it very difficult for us to remove them from those Waters do spur your Neighbours to get a Body of men ready against the Commander in Chief arrives.

The Jersey Assembly have not only passed a Prohibition Act, but have Prolonged it for three months from the first of August, if the Legislatures of yours and this Province pass Laws for the like purpose, which I hope you will approve of, and get your Assembly to do, I shall recommend it to mine on their Meeting, for however late it be I am of opinion the french will be greatly distress'd if we persevere in stoping the Exportation.

As I have not time to Communicate the Indian Information to Governors Sharpe and Dinwiddie I shall be obliged to you to forward it to them.

I am &c
Chas Hardy

P. S. June 8th
Yesterday the Packet arrivd
after a Passage of 8 Weeks Colo Webb
Came in her who takes the Command
of the Forces till Lord Loudens Arrival
who we may expect with the Troops daily.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Philadelphia 5th Iune 1756

Sir

I have Three of your Letters to acknowledge of the 23d March, 24th April, and one since that not dated inclosing the Extract from the £40,000 Act. My answers woud have been much quicker, as well out of regard to the Importance of the contents of those Letters as from the Pleasure your kind correspondence has always given me, but I have been absent a long while and engaged in a most disagreeable work that of putting new and awkard Troops into order, and till my return here had not a moments Respite. I have the Pleasure to tell you that a Regiment of Eight Companies, 50 in a Company, under the Command of a famous New England Partisan one Mr. Clapham, is now on their March to Shamokin situate at the Conflux of the two main Branches of the Susquahannah, in order to build a Fort there for the Protection of such of the Indians as remain faithful to us, and for the Encouragement of those who joind the French to quit their Service and came over to their old Friends, as many might have been forced into this measure and woud be glad to retreat if they could find a Place of Safety for their Families. The Water of the Sasquahannah is often very low and full of Falls for a Mile or Two at a Place called the Narrows, and the March in that Place is likewise very difficult and dangerous, but both men and Provisions are already got beyond those Falls and Narrows and there being no other considerable Interruptions or Difficulties in their future March I am in hopes this Service will be effected. Sir William Iohnson has in several Letters acquainted Sr Charles Hardie that thro' the Interposition of the Six nations the Susquehannah Indians have laid down the Hatchet against us and will if desird join the Six Nations against the French, and that there may be time given to his Negotiations I have publishd a suspension of Hostilities for thirty days on the East side of Sasquahannah but not without having first sent four friendly Indians to the Delaware Towns on Sasquahannah to notify Sr Willm Iohnsons negotiations to such as might be unacquainted with them and to find out the real state of the Dispositions of those Indians, who are returnd, have made a favourable Report of them & brought Messages from them for a Cessation of Arms & Permission to renew former Treaties.

I expect to hear in a few days from Onondago where I imagine Sr Wm Iohnson is now holding a Treaty wth the Six Nations & Deputies of the Delawares & Shawanese on this matter. If we can divide the Indians it will be greatly to the advantage of the common Cause, and as it is reasonable to think

the Sasquahannah Indians were in a great measure put upon the War by a Party of French Delawares from the Ohio who came without previous Notice to Shamokin offerd them the Hatchet and did not allow them time to deliberate I am in hopes that an Accomodation will be brought about by the Six Nations and myselfe. This Suspension not extending over the Sasquahannah no alteration is made as to offensive War in those Parts.

I laid your last Letter and the Extract from the Act granting £40,000 for his Majesties Service before the Assembly heartily recommending it to them to enable me to act in conjunction with your Province and Virginia in the several matters for which Provision is made by both Governments, but they have not as yet vouchsafed to give me their answer and I am in no hopes of succeeding with them as the £60.000 is very near expended in putting the Province into a Posture of Defence and they have now adjournd themselves for three Weeks.

Scarroyady after advising a Declaration of War against the Delawares and joining with us in it has quitted this Province and is gone among the Six Nations to preside in some of their Councils which he did with the Approbation of S^{r} William Johnson and perhaps at his Instance and he has carried with him all the Six Nation Indians who lived amongst us except two and these I have taken into the Employ of the Province as publick Messengers and they are going a second time to the Sasquehannah and upon their Return they have engaged to join the forces under Col^{o} Clapham who will I hope before that be at Shamokin & the Fort be far advanced.

If I had any Indians that I could recommend to you as fit to undertake the Services you want them for I woud readily send them to you, I assure you there is nothing in my Power which I woud not do to serve you and I am sorry I cannot do it on this occasion.

By the last Ships I have Letters from the Proprietor wherein he tells me that he is likely to appoint M^{r} Pownal to succeed me in this Government on the Recommendation of the Duke and Lord Halifax and he says further that he comes with Lord Loudon and is of his Cabinet Council.

I am with great regard Sir

your Most faithfull &
Obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris.

[Morris to Sharpe.] Original.

Philad[a] 12[th] June. 1756.

Sir

The Express that waits upon you with this brings you the publick dispatches that came by Coll. Webb in the Packet to New York and will inform you of our American Staff.

Coll: Webb is to take upon him the Command of the Forces till one of the other Generals arrive and is gone to Albany for that purpose, where I am told an intire Alteration is to be made in our Friend Shirley's Plan (but I much doubt whether such Alteration will be for the better) and he is to be absolutely dismissed from all military Affairs. Tho' for want of activity he might not be so useful in the Field as a younger and more experienced Man, yet for his abilities in the Cabinet and his great Influence and Interest with the People of New England, I fear he will be much missd.

It seems S[r] W[m] Johnson has a Pension granted him of £600 p Ann. and a Comission appointing him Colonel of the Northern Indians with Colonel's pay; And his Secretary M[r] Wraxall has got a Captain's Comission for Major Rutherford's Independent Company.

Finding no likelihood of agreeing with my perverse Assembly and th[t] for that reason I could not do the Good I proposed and cou'd wish to do in this troublesome Station, I gave the Proprietors notice sometime ago th[t] I was grown quite tired of it & was fully determined to resign and desir'd they wou'd send another Gentleman to succeed me. In their last they tell me they had some Thoughts of appointing M[r] Tho[s] Pownall for their Governor here, and as I understand he is to come with Lord Louden he may be expected every day, and I sincerely wish him more Success and Happiness in his Administration than I have had; so that I have now a near prospect of being released and of returning to the desireable situation of a private Gentleman, in which and every other Capacity I shall always retain the highest regard and Esteem for you Dear Sir. and am.

Your Most Faithfull &
obed[t] Humble Serv[t]
Rob[t] H. Morris.

I have inclosed you Copy of S[r] Charles Hardies Letter on Indian Affairs and Copy of an Indian Speech w[ch] please to get copied for Gov[r] Dinwiddie

Original. [Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Iune 18th 1756.

Sir

I wrote you the 24th Ultº to which please be refer'd, I have not any from you since which surprizes me, as I shou'd be glad to know the last Determination of yr Assembly. Our Assembly voted 60,000 for His Majesty's Service & further pass'd a Law to draught the Militia to augment our Forces to 1500 Men; but unluckily & against my opinion they excused the Men draughted on paying ten Pounds each, this in a great Measure defeated the Intention of the Law, as very many paid the 10£ the Number sent up to Winchester I as yet have not a true Acct of, but they will come far short of my Expectations.

One Stalniker, who was taken Prisoner by the Shawnese made his Escape; he says he saw six French Officers with 1000 Indians from Oubatch, bound to Fort Du Quesne, & reports they intended to visit our Frontiers this Sumer; I wou'd gladly think they have not near the Number mention'd but I thot it necessary to acquaint you that we may be on our guard against them.

One Capt Brown, bound to yr Govt in seven Weeks Passage from London, wrote to a Friend of his here, that 2000 Regulars were embarked for N York ten Days before he sail'd, & that Lord Loudon with 1000 more Forces, was to sail ten Days after him; they are much too late for this Sumer's Campaign, it may be expected that the next Post from N York will give us acct of the arrival of the first Detachment, & Lord Louden with the others may very soon be expected.

I cannot see what we can do but be on the Defensive & I have given Colonel Washington Orders accordingly. I shall be glad of a Line from you with your Opinion on our present Situation.

Inclos'd You have the Treaty concluded with the Catawbas & Cherokees. I remain with kind Respects

Your Excellency's
Most hble Servant
Robt Dinwiddie

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to Gen. Webb.]

23d of Iune 1756. From the North Mountain

Sir

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 9th Inst. which gave me the agreeable Account of your safe Arrival in America. I thank you for forwarding

to me the Lett[r] from M[r] Calvert as well as those from the Sec- Letter Bk. III
retary of State the first I see was writ principally to introduce me to Yourself in case I should have an Opportunity of paying my Respects to you in person & of convincing you that Lord Baltimores pleasure therein signified is most agreeable to my own Inclinations. By one of the Letters from M[r] Fox I am directed to prepare & transmit to the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in N America an exact & particular Acco[t] of the present Condition of this Province, the number of our Inhabitants, quantity of Cannon small Arms Ammunition & other Ordnance Stores in our Magazine or in the hands of the Militia together with a true State of all Places already fortified or which I might judge necessary to be fortified in this Province & as I cannot well give a more particular Account of these Matters than I have already done to the R[t] Hon[ble] the Lds of Trade I will take the Liberty to inclose you a Copy of my Lett[r] to their Ldps in Feb[y] last since which time no material Alteration has been made in the Condition or Circumstances of this Province—In a Letter which I did myself the honour to address to the Earl of Loudon the 31[st] of May I informed His Ldp that a Sum of Money had been granted by our Assembly for supporting a Body of Men if it should be thought proper for carrying on an Expedition to the Westward I now inclose an Extract of the Act that grants such money whereby you will see that tho it is made payable to any Gent[n] that shall be appointed to command on such Expedition yet our Treasurers are not at liberty to pay it till the Pensilvanians as well as the Virginians have granted proportionable Supplies for the same purpose. If His Ldp on His Arrival or the Commander in Chief shall think proper to have the money otherwise applied I hope to receive their Commands that I might be able to communicate them in time to our Assembly which I must convene for that purpose. As they thought proper at their last Meeting to appropriate a particular Sum for constructing some places of Defence on our Frontiers & raising 200 men for the immediate protection of the Inhabitants, I am agreeable to their Desire come hither to give the necessary Orders for building such places; in about a month I beleive I shall return again to Annapolis where I shall be always proud to receive any Commands from His Ldp or yourself & on all Occasions endeavour to shew that I am &c.

[Lawrence to Sharpe.] Original.

Duplicate. Halifax 1[st] July 1756.

Sir

I am well informed that many of the French Inhabitants transported last year from this Province, and distributed among the

different Colonies upon the Continent, have procured small Vessels and embarked on Board them in order to return by Coasting from Colony to Colony; and that several of them are now actually on their way: and as their success in this enterprise would not frustrate the design of this Government in sending them away at so prodigious an Expence, but wou'd also greatly endanger the Security of the Province especially at this Critical juncture, I think it my indispensible duty to entreat your Honour to use your utmost endeavours to prevent the accomplishment of so pernicious an undertaking, by destroying such Vessels as those in your Colony may have prepared for that purpose, and all that may attempt to pass thro any part of your Government either by Land or Water in their way hither. I would by no means have given your Excellency this trouble were I not perfectly well assured how fatal the Return of these People is likely to prove to his Majestys Interest in this part of the World.—

I am Sir
Your Excellency's most
obedient & most humble Servt
Chas Lawrence

Original. [Morris to Sharpe.]

Philadelphia 5th Iuly 1756.

Sir/

The inclosed Intelligence was sent me by Express from Bethleham, the two Indians who gave it are come there from Diahogo, and confess they have been concern'd with our Enemies in the Attacks made in the Winter on our Frontiers, but express an hearty concern and have thrown themselves on the Clemency of the Government, The Information they give is more likely to be true as it is known that the Bulk of those who committed the Murders and Devastations in this Province after setting the Houses at Wiomink on fire went off in the Spring to the Ohio and have been followed by numbers since.
I am Sir

Your Most obedt
Humble Servt
Robt H. Morris.

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Fort Frederick 13th Iuly 1756

Dr Br

As I have not much leisure to write nor much News to communicate to you from this place I think I cannot do better than

inclose you a Copy of a Letter which I have just writ to Ld Baltimore; I could wish its Contents were of another Nature, but really some Steps that have been taken at home compell me to speak my Sentiments pretty freely to His Lordship, I have before hinted to you what Channell all Preferment has gone thro since I have been honoured with His Ldp's Commission & if a Reformation be not shortly made the Authority of a Governor in this Province will be a very Shadow. I have writ pretty much in the same Stile to M^r^ Calvert but in such a way as I think he cannot take Offence thereat. It is I think more than probable that he will speak to yourself or Brother William thereon if he should I hope you will be able to convince him that a Governor without power to oblige or reward as well as to punish can never make many Friends & that it is more than likely that a Majority of those who obtain Favours without my Approbation or Interest set light by my power or commence my Enemies, if you can inculcate this Doctrine I think you will do His Ldp great Service at the same time that you add another Favour to the many by which you have made me Y^r^ most obliged

Letter Bk. III

&c.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Original.

New York July 13^th^ 1756.

Dear Sir,

The Inclosed is Intended to be shewn to your Assembly.

I shall stay here a few days upon the earnest request of General Abercrombie & Colonel Webb (whom I left at Albany) in order to see Lord Loudoun and Communicate my Sentiments to him, upon the State of his Majesty's Service under his Command in North America, which they are of Opinion would be greatly to his Lordship's satisfaction, and much promote his Service.

Upon that occasion I shall press him to supply you, with Artillery & Ordnance Stores & an Engineer for Carrying on the intended Expedition with 3000 Men under your Command from the Western Colonies; which I am glad to find the Government of Virginia is well dispos'd to, by Gov^r^ Dinwiddie and Colonel Ludwell of the Council of that Province, now here to Complement Lord Loudoun upon his arrival: and I will recommend it to his Lordship in the strongest Terms to appoint Colonel Washington, the second in Command in that Expedition, which I beg the favour of you to let him know, and excuse to him my not writing him a Letter, on Account of the great hurry I am in here.

I shall be extremely glad to execute any Commands for you in England to the utmost of my power; the surest way of your sending them to me, now my time is so short in North America, will be to forward them to England under Cover to Messrs Thomlinson & Trecothick & Company Merchants in London.

I wish you Success in all your Undertaking's being with much truth & perfect Esteem.

Dear Sir,
Your most Faithfull
Humble Servant
W Shirley

P. S. Capt Dagworthy informs me, you are busy in building a Fort; I could wish, your Assembly had been content to place it, where you propos'd.

If you should find your Assembly inclin'd to express a favourable Sense of my Endeavour's to promote the General Interests of the Colonies in public Vote; I take the Liberty to say in Confidence to a Gentleman whom I esteem my Friend, that it would not be an unacceptable Complement to me.

Honble Horatio Sharpe Esqr

Original.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

New York July 13th 1756.

Sir

Some days ago I had the Honour to receive at Albany, two Letters from the Rt Honble Mr Fox, one of his Majesty's principal Secretary's of State dated the 13th & 31st March last, acquainting me in the former with his Majesty's appointment of the Earl of Loudoun to be General & Commander in Chief of his Forces in North America, and in the latter signifying to me that it having been represented to the King, that my presence in England may be very usefull & necessary to his Majesty's Service at this time; on Account of my being able to give many lights and Informations relative to the State of Affairs in North America, it was his Majesty's pleasure, that I should repair to England with all possible Expedition. And that for this purpose his Majesty had given directions to the Lords of the Admiralty, who have ordered a Frigate to receive me on board and proceed with me directly to England. And I have the pleasure of being acquainted in the former of these Letters that the Disposition, his Majesty has thought proper to make of the Command of his Forces in North America, is not owing to any dissatisfaction with my Services; But that on the Contrary it is

the King's Intention, to give me a new mark of his Royal Favour.

As I think it not improper for me to give your Honour & the Province under your Governm^{t} notice of my departure for England, so I am desirous of taking this Opportunity of assuring you and them of my best Wishes for their Welfare and that of his Majesty's other Colonies, and th^{t} I shall think myself Happy upon my arrival in England in being able to give such Lights & Informations relative to the State of Affairs in North America, at this most critical Conjuncture, as may best promote his Majesty's Service, and the security of the General Interests of his Subjects there.

I am with great truth and Regard,
Sir
Your Honour's most Humble
and most Obedient Servant
W Shirley.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I. p. 209

13th July 1756

My Lord

I am just honoured with your Lordship's Instructions of the 9th of March & in Obedience thereto have sent to each of the Rent Roll Keepers a Copy of the inclosed Orders. I hope I need not use many words to persuade your Lordship that I have already exerted myself as far as my Authority or Influence extended to get the several Rent Rolls compleated & I hope to gain Credit with your Lordship when I assure you that nothing has ever given me greater Uneasiness than my p. 210
Inability to serve your Lordship to your Satisfaction in this particular. Those whose Duty it is to settle & manage your Lordships Pecuniary Affairs are perpetually blaming each other & endeavouring to vindicate their own Conduct. Col^{o} Lloyd your Ldp knows is both Agent & Rent Roll Keeper, & I have been several times so importunate with him to perform his Duty agreeable to your Instructions that I am afraid I have more than once given Offence tho he has never when I have spoke to him thereon been wanting in his Professions that neither your Lordship nor any one else should have reason to complain of any Neglect or Delay on his part, & tis not without Concern that I find he has been less punctual than his Promises at first inclined me to hope he would be found. It is now three Months since I gave him in writing peremptory Instructions to demand & receive all your Lordship's Rentalls, Books, & Papers, that lay in M^{r} Tilghman's hands & then to

Letter Bk. I. acquaint him that your Lordship had no farther Occasion for his Service however Mr Tilghman is still continued by reason as Colo Lloyd says that your Lordship's Interest requires it & that your Lordship's Affairs must receive considerable Detriment from his being immediately dismissed: this Answer I did not indeed expect from Colonel Lloyd after the Representations he has made to Mr Calvert of the Backwardness of the other, however as Colonel Lloyd ought to be the best Judge, & lest your Lordship's Affairs should be said to suffer by my giving Counter Orders, I have left it to Colonel Lloyd to cashire Mr Tilghman immediately or to continue him a short time longer on Condition he loses no time in getting all the Rentall Books &c out of his Custody & bringing him to a just & final Settlement, & till he shall do so I have advised Colo Lloyd to stop his Salary. I have appointed Mr Wm Goldsborough to succeed Mr Tilghman & desired Colo Lloyd to deliver the necessary Books & Rentalls into his Custody. As Colonel Lloyd was
p. 211 absolutely averse to resigning the Western Shore Rent Roll to Mr Thomas or any other Gentn Mr Thomas continues still unprovided for which really gives me some Concern because I esteem him a Man of Abilities & a true Friend to your Lordship's Governt As Mr Calvert tells me he has writ to Mr Dulany & acquainted him that your Ldp will not be averse to accepting my Recommendation in his favour I presume to mention him once more to your Ldp tho I am not without some Apprehensions that my repeated Solicitations on his behalf have been disagreeable as they have hitherto been without Effect, but My Lord I hope that whether such my Importunity has been displeasing or otherwise your Ldp will do me the Justice to beleive that it proceeded from a Desire of serving your Lordship & from no other Cause. I have no particular Alliances or Connections with him or any Gentn in the Province & if I had, I hope your Lordsp will beleive that no such Motives, no private Views no prejudices, no Friendships should divert me from pursuing & advising what should seem most likely to promote your Ldp's Interest. My only Reason for Espousing Mr Dulany's Interest so warmly was as I told Mr Calvert that he is esteemed a Gentn of the best natural & acquired Abilities of any in the Province & at the same time looked on to be a Person of strict honour, that this made him appear to me as a most desirable Friend while I regarded him as one who could be a very formidable Enemy. Such Considerations have always influenced my Recommendations since I have been honoured with your Ldp's Commission & such My Ld induce me to mention Mr Dulany once more presuming from Mr Calverts last Letter that your Ldp is not so averse to giving him preferment as I have for some time apprehended.

As I am given to understand that Colonel Lloyd has expressed Letter Bk. I.
a Desire to have or be allowed the Recommendation of the
several Officers with whom he as Agent is necessarily con-
cerned lest otherwise a Man opposite to him in Sentiments if
not otherwise unfit may be appointed & thereby Your Ldps
Affairs be but ill conducted & as your Ldp is pleased to order
me to pay due Regard to such his Recommendations I cannot
help observing to your Ldp that I have always paid the greatest
Regard to his Advice in the Disposal of such places & that
out of 7 Sheriffs on the Eastern Shore 4 have been named by
himself & the Rest by other Gent[n] of the Council I hope Col[o]
Lloyd would not insinuate that I have ever appointed an im-
proper person to an Office with which he has the most dis-
tant Concern, but to avoid any such Suspicion I shall if it be p. 212
agreeable to your Ldp's Sense & Inclination, without the least
Reluctance part with any power of nominating to vacant Offices
as that is a privelege or power which in my Opinion no Gov-
ernor has reason to be very fond of, for my own part I can
assure your Ldp that it has made me many Enemies & that on
Account of the Recommendations that I have been obliged to
accept it has been very rarely in my power to make a Friend
by that means. I have before observed that out of 7 I accepted
Col[o] Lloyds Recommendation of 4 Sheriffs (who are as it were
the only Officers that I have the Appointment of) I might also
have added that I have never refused but one Person whom
your Ldp's Agent has mentioned to me & that was a Scotch
Factor who brought me an Introductory & Recommendatory
Lett[r] from him the Day I arrived in the Province, Accordingly
I accepted the person but when Numbers of the Gent[n] of the
County hearing what I had done subscribed a Petition &
desired me to gratify them so far as to appoint some more
agreeable Person & one not in desperate Circumstances to be
Sheriff of their County, I writ to Col[o] Lloyd & desired him
to excuse me from doing a thing so disagreeable to the People
immediately on my Arrival as my Appointing the Person he
recommended would be & with difficulty prevailed on him
to nominate a second & less exceptionable one after he had
refused to give Security for the Behaviour of him whom
he had first recommended. M[r] Calvert tells me that in Conse-
quence of a Letter from the Rev[d] M[r] Jones Y[r] Ldp desires to
be certainly informed whether it would not be much for your
Advantage to have the South Branch of Potowmack determined
to be the Fountain Head of that River; Your Ldp might be
pleased to remember that soon after my Arrival in the Province
I made particular Enquiry concerning that matter & writ to
Lord Fairfax & Gover[r] Dinwiddie therein lest your Ldp should
have forgot what I writ at that time on the Subject I take the

Letter Bk. I. Liberty to inclose Extracts of my Letters whereby your Ldp will see that That is no new Discovery of Mr Jones's but how an Alteration is now to be made is the only question & Difficulty; I do not in the least doubt both from what I have myself seen
p. 213 & heard that the South Branch ought to have been deemed the Spring-Head & the Boundary of Maryland tho the Commissioners that were appointed by the Crown to examine it determined otherwise. The Virginians will most certainly oppose any Alteration or Resettlement Lord Fairfax is indifferent & no Survey can at this time be safely made within 80 Miles of the South Branch by less than a Body of 100 or 200 Men, What Measures then can be taken to resettle that Boundary to your Ldp's Satisfaction at present I know not but shall gladly & readily take any Step that your Ldp shall judge proper or be pleased to approve of. Whether Mr Jones's Services merit a greater Reward than the valuable Living he has long held & enjoyed in Cæcil County I submit to your Lordship but think it my Duty to intimate that I beleive he would never have requested such a Favour for his Son in Law directly of Your Lordship if he had not despaired of succeeding with me on Account of his Past Conduct. What that has been I leave your Ldp to judge from the inclosed Petition which is copied from one that Mr Jones & many other such Guides handed about among their Parishioners & got them to subscribe & present to their respective Representatives in Assembly during the late Session, & here I cannot help observing & I hope yr Ldp will excuse me for it that Mr Jones is not the first Gentn that having good reason for not apprizing me of his Intention has addressed & applied himself directly to your Ldp or Mr Calvert for Preferment, & thereby laid me under great Difficulties on Account of Promises that I might have made as I think it my Duty always to obey every Letter or Intimation that has the least Appearance of a Command or Instruction from either your Ldp or Mr Calvert. Your Ldp will not I hope doubt my most punctual Obedience to your Instructions concerning the Act of Parliament lately made for raising Troops in these Colonies & Your Ldp will I flatter myself beleive that no Endeavours shall be wanting on my part to promote His Majesty's Service on every Occasion. I have been some Weeks at this place with about 150 Men (raised by Virtue of our late Act of Assembly)
p. 214 constructing a Fort & Block-Houses for the protection of the Frontiers, My presence here will I apprehend be absolutely necessary till the Work is pretty far advanced all our Men being raw & undiciplined & all our Officers ignorant of every thing that relates to Fortifications or Places of Defence, neither is it without great difficulty that I make them observe such Regulations & Orders as our Situation makes necessary.

A few days ago some Parties of Indians appeared in the two neighbouring Colonies & cut off several of the Inhabitants & indeed they have also done some Mischief lately on our Frontiers tho not with impunity as y^r^ Ldp will see by the inclosed Gazette I have not for some time received any Lett^rs^ from the Northw^d^ but by what I can learn it is not expected that our Troops will offend the Enemy much this Summer in that Quarter unless Ld Loudon should come over very shortly with a much larger Body of Men than General Abercrombie is lately arrived with Letter Bk. I.

I am &c

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Fort Fred^k^ the 13^th^ Iuly 1756. transmitted by Capt Coolidge.

S^r^

I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter of the 9^th^ of March together with His Ldp's Instructions of the same Date, & have in Obedience to His Ldp's Requisition & your Commands sent peremptory Orders to the Agent, Keepers of the Rent-Rolls & His Ldp's other Officers to compleat such Rentall Books as you require & to satisfy His Ldp that I have done so I have inclosed him a Copy of my Instructions to those Officers which in fact are much the same as I had before given them agreeable to the Instructions which I have several times received. It has I assure you given me inexpressible Concern that His Ldp should have reason to repeat his Instructions on that Subject & I wish it had been as much in my Power as in my Inclination to have given His Ldp Satisfaction therein long since. Colo Lloyd has for his part been always p. 215 full of Professions & Promises that no one should have reason to complain of any Neglect in him, but by Your Account I think He seems as culpable as any one. I cannot help thinking his Desire to have the Recommendation to all Offices which in virtue of his Post he must have Inspection into a little extraordinary, I do not well understand what is meant by "Offices which he must have Inspection into," if he would have the Keepers of the Rent Roll appointed by himself surely he cannot desire more than to be one of them himself & to have nominated the other, but if he means all the Officers that he must at times be necessarily concerned with he must then have the Recommendation or Appointment to every Place in the Government for there is not one but as Agent he must frequently have Business with. for my own Part I can assure you that if such a Proceeding be agreeable to His Ldp I would most readily resign to him the Nomination of any Officers

Letter Bk. I. which it has been usual for or incumbent on Governors to appoint, rather than His Ldp should entertain the least Suspicion of my having ever had any thing in view in such Appointment besides His Ldp's pleasure & Interest. With truth can I assure you that I have very rarely consulted my own Inclinations in my Appointment of any Officers in the Governm^{t} & I am apt to beleive that not more than three or four do really think themselves obliged to me for their Preferment, while by my Inability to provide for many who have endeavoured to recommend themselves to my favourable Notice I doubt not but I have made many Enemies & inclined some of them to entertain no very great Opinion of my Power. such would be the Sentiments no doubt of M^{r} Jones was His Ldp to grant his Request, & I am inclined to think M^{r} Darnall would be much of the same Opinion should His Ldp gratify his hopes & Expectations. I have taken the Liberty to write
p. 216 to His Ldp pretty fully concerning M^{r} Jones & flatter myself His Ldp will not lessen my Influence so much as would certainly be done by conferring Favours on any one who has rendered himself justly obnoxious to the Government. Colo Lloyds Observation "that unless he has the Recommendation of all Officers with whom he must be concerned Gentlemen opposite to him in Sentiments may happen to be appointed" is no doubt very just but I hope he would not insinuate that there is a probability of my appointing any person to an Office for which he is unfit or against whom any Objection can be made. I am sure he has not hitherto had the least Reason to be dissatisfied with any of my Appointments neither shall he ever have room to except agst any. I have always paid the greatest Regard to his Recommendations, in one Instance only have I made any Objection to them & that was to one who was represented to be in very low Circumstances & for whom Colo Lloyd himself declined giving Security. You tell me his present Drift is to get M^{r} Cha. Goldsborough into place, I cannot guess what he would have done for him neither did I ever learn till now that he would desire more for him than a Seat at the Council. Upon the Strength of what you write concerning M^{r} Dulany I have ventured to address His Ldp in his behalf & hope a favourable Answer. I will send or deliver your Letter to M^{r} Dulany immediately on my Return & hope t'will give him Satisfaction tho I am not without some Apprehensions that from Your telling him "the only Way for him to obtain favour of my Lord is to address me" he might be apt to suspect I have espoused his Interest less warmly than I really have. I hope M^{r} Young will not be set in Competition with him, I am confident that would never happen were the Gentlemen's Characters as well known to

His Ldp & Yourself as they are to every person in this Coun- Letter Bk. I.
try; but be His Ldp's Determination what it will I shall chear-
fully submit & always think what he determines right & most p. 217
proper. I need not I hope repeat my Desire to serve M^r^
Thomas because I think he deserves to be taken Notice of; I
hope an Opportunity will sometime offer & that I shall have
it in my power to shew that I have a real Regard for him. If
you will please to recur to my Lett^rs^ dated the 14^th^ of Sept^r^ &
29^th^ Novem^r^ 1753. You will find that I at that time said as
much as M^r^ Jones pretends to have discovered & more than
he can possibly know about the two Branches of Potowmack.
As I did not receive Your Favour of the 17^th^ of April 1754 till
after M^r^ Washington's Defeat & till it would have been both
dangerous & expensive to explore or survey either of the
Branches of that River No Step has been taken to discover or
determine the Longitude or Meridian of their respective Foun-
tains neither is there any Prospect of its being done yet a long
time without the greatest hazard but if it be agreeable to His
Ldp to have any thing done in that Business, be pleased to
signify them that I may execute His Ldp's Commands. That
Bill of Parker's I will get renewed & return it you as soon as
possible. Neither M^r^ Plater nor M^r^ Steuart could make up
their Accounts or receive the Fees due to them till this Month,
on my Return to Annapolis I will comply with your Request
concerning them & will also give M^r^ Tasker such a Hint as
you desire. M^r^ Meyers I have not seen some time, he has I
hear been much indisposed & I am afraid is not quite so tem-
perate as his Father might wish. M^r^ Ridout has intimated to
him that his Father is anxious to hear from him & advised him
to be punctual in his Correspondence. herewith you receive
the Journall of the Proceedings of the Lower House of Assem-
bly during the last Session: the Laws I hear are in the Press
& I hope will be ready to transmit by the next Opportu- p. 218
nity of Conveyance that may offer. I shall perhaps then
write from Annapolis whither I shall return as soon as our
Fort is a little farther advanced so that the Frontier Inhabitants
may think themselves more secure. My Presence here till
that time the Ignorance of both our Officers & Men with
regard to Fortification renders absolutely necessary & if I was
away I doubt none of the Country People or Labourers would
submit to the Command of any Military Officer. A Party of
Indians has lately cut off some Families in Pens^a^ about 20 Miles
from this place & I hear that another Party has again made an
Incursion into Virginia & destroyed several of the Inhabitants.
The inclosed Gazette will shew you what has happened also in
this Province, where alone I think the Indians have suffered a
certain Loss. The Virginians are about to build a very expen-

Letter Bk. I. sive Fort at Winchester & it is reported they will remove thither the Stores from Fort Cumberland & abandon that place. I have not lately received any Advices from the Northward but by what I can find our Troops in that part of the Continent are not expected to perform great Exploits this Season. General Abercrombie & the Forces that embarked with him are arrived & Lord Loudon with two more Regiments is daily expected. Your Favour by General Webb I have received & in Consequence thereof begun a Correspondence with that Gent[n] I hope you beleive that I shall always pay the greatest Regard to your Recommendations & endeavour to shew on every Occasion that I am &c—

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Maj.-Gen. Abercromby.]

Fort Frederick 17[th] Iuly 1756.

S[r]

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour by Major Rutherford & to congratulate you on your Arrival in America where I heartily wish you all happiness & Success I beg you will think that nothing shall be wanting on my Part to promote & forward the Service in which Major Rutherford & the other Gentlemen of the Royal Americans are at this time engaged, I have already writ to our Magistrates to assist the Recruiting Parties that may be ordered to this Province & to contribute towards the Completion of that Corps as much as lies in their power. I am much obliged to your Excellency for forwarding to me the packett from the Secretary of State, in Obedience to M[r] Fox's Letter I have already sent a particular Account of the State & Condition of this Province in a Lett[r] directed to Col[o] Webb or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in America which I presume will be laid before you & at the same time I also informed him that the Assembly of this Province has lately granted the Sum of £40000 Currency or £25,000 St[g] for His Majesty's Service part thereof is particularly appropriated to build a Fort on the Frontiers of this Province & to support two Companies of 100 Men each till next Feb[y] for the Protection of our Back-Inhabitants but the greater Part is given for the Encouragement of an Expedition to the Westward should such a one be approved of & the two neighbouring Colonies contribute towards carrying it on, in that Case the Money abovementioned is made payable to the Commander in Chief of such Expedition & the Treasurers will accept his Orders for the same, but if no such Expedition be resolved on I must meet the Assembly to get it otherwise appropriated as soon as I receive Orders

from the Earl of Loudon or Your Excellency for that purpose. Letter Bk. III
I return you thanks for troubling yourself with the Letter from Mr Calvert, should I be fortunate enough to have an Opportunity of paying my Respects to you in Person I would take the Liberty from it to introduce myself to you & endeavour to shew that Lord Baltimore & Mr Calvert bid me do the thing most agreeable to my own Inclination & Wishes when they desire me to be known to your Excellency & to endeavour to convince you by all means in my power that I am &c—

[Sharpe to Fox.]

17th Iuly 1756.

Rt Honble

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your two Letters dated the 13th of March by Colo Webb, & Duplicates thereof by Major General Abercrombie & will endeavour to pay the most punctual Obedience to your Commands therein signified the Money that our Assembly has granted for His Majesty's Service is for the most part made payable to the Order of any Officer that may be appointed to command in Chief on an Expedition to the Westward of this I have advised General Abercrombie & shall if the Earl of Loudon or he think proper desire the Assembly to appropriate it to any other Use. We have for almost two years had an Act of Assembly to prohibit all Trade with the French & their Allies which I beleive is effectual & renders it impossible for them to be supplied with any Stores or Provisions from this Province & indeed the Inhabitants did not even before this Act was made carry on any Trade with them. I have in a Letter which Lord Loudon will receive on his Arrival at New York & also in a Letter to General Abercrombie given a very particular Account of the present State & Condition of this Province agreeable to the Orders you was pleased to send me. We have not lately lost more than four of the Inhabitants of this Province & those were killed in two Skirmishes with Indians on our extreme Frontiers wherein the Indians lost on equal Number & retired without the plunder they were carrying off from Pensilvania. I have been some time at this Place getting a Fort constructed which is to be garrisoned with 200 Men that the Assembly have enabled me to support for that purpose & to patroll on the Frontiers for the Protection of the remote Inhabitants. I am &c.

Original.

[Morris to Sharpe.]

Philadelphia 19 July 1756.

Sir

Capt^{n} Dagworthy will be able to tell you what is passing at New York as well wth regard to England as the Eastern Expeditions.

M^{r} Pownall, as M^{r} Penn writes me, woud not come under Instructions after he was recommended to the Prop^{rs} by the Duke of Cumberland and therefore miscarried, if he ever had any real Intentions to accept this Gov^{t} w^{ch} M^{r} Penn doubts, I think he woud not have objected to such Instructions as were offerd unless he thought he coud oblige M^{r} Penn by the weight of his Influence to appoint him without Instructions. In this however he was mistaken, & M^{r} Penn had in opinion with him M^{r} Fox, Lord Halifax & Lord Louden. I do not hear for certain that he has the Government of the Massachusets tho it may be so. After the Conferences ended betw^{n} the Prop^{rs} & M^{r} Pownal the Duke of Cumberland recommended one M^{r} Denny a Gentleman of the Army & he is expected to arrive every day.

He is said to be a Gentleman of Address and of a fair Character, but as he is not known to myself or to any here I know no more of him than what common Fame reports w^{ch} is much to his advantage.

Our people complain much that while the Embargo is laid in this & the other Provinces Maryland, w^{ch} is equally a Bread Country, is at liberty to export. It is really for the publick Utility that there shoud be a long Restriction, and this will not take place unless it be general so that I coud wish whenever the other Colonies think it necessary to lay an Embargo you woud lay the same in your Colony. Capt^{n} Dagworthy staying I am obliged to write in haste. I woud have wrote to you on the Subject of the Embargo sooner if I had not imagind that S^{r} Charles Hardie had wrote to you at the same time he first mentiond the matter to me. I am

Sir your most obed^{t} Humble Serv^{t}

Rob^{t} H: Morris.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

Liber J. R. & U. S. p. 124

New York 23^{d} July 1756.

S^{r}

His Majesty having been graciously pleased to appoint me, by his Commission under the great Seal to be General and Commander in chief of all his Forces in North America. I take this first opportunity to acquaint you of my Arrival this

Morning; As I have been unfortunately so long detained in my Passage I find it indispensably necessary that I go up immediately to the Army. I must proceed accordingly. I herewith send your Honour the Letters of M^r^ Fox his Majesty's Secretary of State, and of the Earl of Halifax his Majesty's first Lord Commissioner of the Board of Trade. I do from your Zeal and Attachment to his Majesty's Service, and from the Loyalty and good Dispositions of your people, depend upon all Assistance that the State & Circumstances of your Province is able to give me. Liber J. R. & U. S.

I will beg your Honour to assure the good People of your Province, that they may depend upon my protection, and my utmost Care to avoid and remove (as far as the Circumstances of a Country become the Seat of War will admit) every thing that may any way burthen, or hurt the Interest of any Individual.

I shall on all Occasions, and in every thing relative to the Service and Interest of the Colonies communicate with your Honour, and beg at all times to be favoured from you with all Matters of Advice and Intelligence relative to the same, and shall impatiently expect the Returns you are directed to send. I beg you to be assured, that I am with the highest Esteem

S^r^

Your Honours most obedient and most humble Servant

Loudoun

The hon^ble^ Horatio Sharp Esq^r^

[Peters to Sharpe.] Original.

Philadelphia July 29 1756

Sir: His Honour our Governor being on the Frontiers at Easton, holding a Treaty with a Chief or two of the Six Nations, as Mediators for our late Enemies the Delawares and Shawanese and also some of their Chiefs: I am ordered by the Council immediately to dispatch this Express with the inclosed packett from Lord Loudon for your Excellency and seven others viz^t^ two for Virginia, two for North Carolina, two for South Carolina and one for Georgia, which his Excellency Lord Loudon desires the favour of you to forward by Express.

We received Letters this morning from our Governor advising the Council that he finds the Indians well disposed for an Accomodation with us and that he has a fair prospect of making a good Peace with them: but as they had not entered upon the substantial part of the Treaty having only just got thro' the Formalities, I cannot give you any particulars of it. The Six Nation Chief who is the Speaker and Manager at the Treaty for the Indians declares himself most agreably

disappointed in finding that we had not given the Delawares the least cause or Umbrage for falling out with us and complains that they had all been much abused and deceived by false representations of our Treatment of the Delawares and designs against them

I am Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant
By Order of the Council Wm Peters
His Excellency Horatio Sharp Esqr

Original.

[Morris to Sharpe.]

Philadelphia Aug. 15. 1756

Sir.

I received yesterday by Express from Cumberland County an Account that Fort Granville on the River Juniata near our Western Frontier was on the 30 Ultimo attackt taken and burnt by a Body of French assisted by a number of Indians all under the Command of a French Officer. There were in the Fort when Attackt a Lieutenant and Twenty four Men with some Women and Children; They killed the Lieut: and some of the Men in the Action and carried off the rest Prisoners and made a division of them, allotting to the French the Young Men and the Women, and to the Indians the oldest of the Men and the Children. After they had destroyed the Fort the French Officer set up a French Flag. They have committed many other ravages and Scalped and carried off many more of the People in that part of the Country, which has so terrify'd the rest that I am very apprehensive that whole Country will be very soon deserted and the River Susquehannah become our Western Frontier if some more speedy and effectual measures are not taken to prevent it than I have any reason to expect from my perverse Assembly, who being to meet to Morrow I shall then in the Strongest Terms I can press them to provide immediately for the better defence of that part of the Province now in such imminent danger. I have the honor to be

Your Excellencys
Most obedt Humble servt
Robt H: Morris

P. S. Since writing the above I am informed that another Fort on the Western frontier at a place called McDowell's Mill is actually evacuated and that the People in those parts who have hitherto mentained their ground, are now moveing down into the thicker settled parts of the Province on this side the Susquahannah. and as by the evacuation of that Fort our communication with the Forts Lyttelton and Shirley will be cut off it will be very difficult in our present circumstances to hinder them from falling into the Enemys Hands.

[Capt. S. Gardner to Sharpe.] Original.

Sir I am enjoyn'd by my Instructions upon any difficulty that rises in the Recruiting Service to make my Application to the Governor of the Province or Colony where I happen to be.

I have met with Opposition from some of the People in these Quarters w^ch^ I apprehend to be a just Matter of Complaint, & I doubt not the Persons concern'd will be severely reprehended by your Excellency.

My recruiting Sergeant sometime in July last was attack'd by Mr. Charles Ridgley & a Number of others his Accomplices, & had six Recruits taken from him by Force & Arms, who had each receiv'd his Majesty's Bounty, on pretence that these Recruits were Indented Servants, w^ch^ turns out not to be the truth as to all of them—besides threatning the Sergeant & the Party to have them whipt out of Town.

About a Fortnight since M^r^ Joseph Watkins with a Number of Men arm'd with Clubs rescu'd another Recruit from my Serg^t^ in his way from Joppa to this Town.

I apply'd to Mr. Bordley the Attorney General who I imagin'd I sho^d^ find very ready to joyn with me in a publick Resentment of this Method of proceeding by prosecuting the Parties concern'd, but by what I could gather from my Conversation with him, he makes light not to say justifies Attempts of this sort—he put a Case not very much to the Honour of the Recruiting Service—Suppose a Man steals a Horse &c.

If thro' mistake, or in a disputable Point as this seems to be among the Inhabitants, whether the King has not a prior Right to the Service of his Subjects to any after obligation they may lay themselves under, especially in Cases of great Necessity, any Mans legal property is invaded, are not the Steps of the Law to be pursu'd without violence that Justice may be done? —besides I cannot possibly know who are or are not Servants 'till their Indentures are produc'd.

Pardon my suggesting these things w^h^ is with no other View than to apologize for my own Conduct.

I hope your Excellency will give such Directions & Order a prosecution against the Parties who have been culpable against whom I am ready to furnish the necessary Proofs as may deter others from such a barefac'd Opposition to His Majesty's Service.

I am with great Respect
Your Excellency's most Obed^t^ Hum Serv^t^
Sam^l^ Gardner
Captain in his Majesty's 47^th^ Regim^t^

Baltimore Aug^t^ 15^th^ 1756

Sir

Since the above by the Instigation as I am credibly inform'd of some of the better sort at the Church in the Forest last Sunday there was an Agreement made to raise a Body of about 200 men & take all my Recruits from me, this Town to be their rendezvous on Monday. Cap^{t} Orrick who commands a Company of Militia in the County came on Sunday evening with about twenty Horse the men arm'd with Clubs & gave me to understand that they expected the whole Body the next Day. The Captain was deputed by the rest to be their Spokesman who told me they were come in a peaceable Manner to demand their Servants & that if they could not have them by fair means they would have them by Foul.

It seems some of their Convict Servants were run away notwithstanding my posting up Advertisem^{ts} th^{t} I would not take any Convicts they would not believe me I gave them Liberty to examine my recruits they found none of their Servants & for the present the Storm is blown over. I leave the whole to y^{r} Excellency's Animadversion.

I am y^{r} Excell^{cys} most obed^{t}

Baltimore 21st Aug^{t} & most hum Serv^{t} S. Gardner

Original.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

Albany 20th August 1756—

Sir

I received last night accounts by which I apprehend that Oswego with all its Stores and Ammunition and the Train placed there is lost, The Garrison made Prisoners and our Naval power on the Lake destroyed.

I must put you on your Guard against every Ill Consequence of such an Unhappy Event and as you may now expect the weight of the French Indian Power on your Back I must caution you to put your Frontiers immediately in the best posture of Defence you are able as from the Condition and number of the Troops left to me when I came to my Command I can scarce hope to do more than to resist the French power in these Quarters.

Were my Hands strengthened to enable me to Act I would not despair of retrieving this Misfortune and to wrest out of the hands of the French this important Post that by a series of bad Circumstances has fall'n too easy a Prey to them.—

I must in the strongest manner and from motives of the most interesting nature demand your Assistance and that of your Province.

His Majesty having been graciously pleased to send over to America a number of Officers for the Service of these Countries his Royall American Regiment of four Battalions does Expect that the Colonies will supply the Levies for this Regiment, The state of the service does now require that this Regiment should be immediately Compleated. There is no aid you could send me in any Shape wou'd be so useful as Recruits to Compleat this Regiment as under such good Officers as his Majesty has appointed to it they would be soon if not directly fitt for service.—

The Levy money is in all Justice and right expected of the Colonies but if obstructions to the service should arrise within your Province on this head I must at this time undertake to advance it.

I do therefore again in the strongest manner desire of you and your Province that you will without Fail as you shall answer for the Consequences use your utmost Endeavours to procure and send me a number of such Recruits If I had this Regiment Compleated directly I should hope to be able to Act and remove those dangerous Circumstances under which his Majesty's Colonies do now labour. In Consequence of his Majesty's Positive Orders I must require of you to lay a Prohibition on the Exportation of all manner of Provisions as the sending out such at this time will not only supply the French everywhere and enable them to Act against us but may in a very Essential manner distress his Majesty's Service here as I do not know how soon I may want all that the Colonies can Furnish.

I am with great Truth and Regard
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Loudoun—

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 218

Annapolis the 20th of Augst 1756

My Ld.

In my last which I did myself the honour to write to your Ldp from Fort Frederick the 12th of Iuly I inclosed a Copy of the Instructions which in Obedience to your Lordship's Commands had been sent to the Agent & Keepers of the Rent Rolls, since my Return to Annapolis I have received a Letter from Colo Lloyd acknowledging the Receipt of them & promising that he will do his Endeavours to give your Lordship that Satisfaction which you expect & require tho says he Mr Calvert p. 219

Letter Bk. I. does not say one Syllable to me about the Rent Roll he adds that my Letter or Instructions were in an unusual Strain & that he is sure your Lordship has no reason to complain of his Conduct these Expressions My Lord convince me of what I have before intimated to M^r^ Calvert, that he is far from being satisfied with my interfering or concerning Myself with matters that he apprehends himself intrusted with the sole Management of & that it is absolutely impossible for me to communicate to him Your Ldp's Instructions with respect to the Administration of your private Affairs without giving Offence. however I hope your Ldp will not disapprove of the Instructions I sent but beleive that I therein endeavoured to act as agreeable to your Ldp's pleasure as possible & that I will on every Occasion to the utmost of my power & Abilities do so. I have also received Your Ldp's Favour by the Earl of Loudon & shall take Care to pay the most punctual Obedience to what Your Lordship therein commands & always contribute as much as possible to promote the Service that His Lordship recommends; He is I hear at this time at Albany disposing of the Regiments in the best manner for the Security of the Northern Provinces & that they may assist or on occasion cover the Retreat of the Provincial Troops who continue absolutely averse to acting in Conjunction with Regulars on the Expedition against Crown-Point. Since I left Fort Frederick we have received Advice that a party of French & Indians have reduced & burnt Fort Granville which was one of the most considerable that the Pensil^a^ Commissioners had built last year on the Frontiers of that Province, it was situated 20 Miles west of the Conflux of the Susquehanna & Iuniata Rivers & has been generally garrisoned with a Company of 70 Men, tho it seems when it was attacked the Garrison consisted of no more than an Ensign & 25 the rest of the Officers being out with Detachments to cover the people while they were at harvest. It is said that by some means or other the Enemy set the Fort on fire that in attempting to extinguish it the Ensign & three or four private Men were killed & some wounded & that the
p. 220 Rest (their Ammunition being expended) thought proper to surrender at Discretion. This Account we have from one of the Prisoners who has given the Enemy the Slip & is returned to the Inhabitants. This Accident has a good deal alarmed the Inhabitants of Pens^a^ while it makes our people see the Expediency of my building Fort Frederick of Stone, which measure alone (tho it is expensive) is the only one that can secure a Garrison against the Savages conducted by European Officers as it is certain these Indian Parties are. This My Lord is all the news that I can send your Lordship at present, every thing in Your Ldp's Province & Virginia remaining in

the same Situation & Condition that they were in when I last Letter Bk. I.
did myself the honour to address Myself to your Ldp & to
profess as I again do that I am Yrs &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Annapolis the 21st of August 1756 & transmitted by
Capt Brooke. Dups by Capt.

Sir

Herewith you receive Copies of all the Laws that were enacted last Session together with a few Remarks thereon, as none of them except the Supply Bill contain any thing of an extraordinary nature I hope they will meet with His Ldp's Approbation. Since my Return home I have received a Letter from Colo Lloyd in answer to the Instructions which in Obedience to His Lordship's Commands I sent him from Fort Frederick he says they appear to be writ in a very unusual Strain & seems to think I take upon me more than I ought in giving such peremptory Orders about the management of His Lordship's private Affairs, he says he is sure His Ldp has no room to complain of his Behaviour or Delay & declares that you do not say one Syllable to him about the Rent Roll. I have before intimated to you how difficult it was for me to communicate to him what His Lordship required without giving Offence & that His Ldps Commands about his private Affairs would probably be obeyd more readily if they were signified to His Agent immediately by Yourself however Colonel Lloyd again professes that no Endeavours shall be wanting on his part to give His Lordship the Satisfaction he requires with regard to the Western Shore Rent Roll which he has directed Mr Ross (who has the Care of perfecting them for p. 221
him) to make out with all possible Dispatch. I have not yet been able to get Parkers Bill renewed, neither can I get a Bill of Excha to remit to yourself at this time, but I shall be able to provide myself within this Fortnight & will take Care to send both by a Gentn who will sail hence about that time. I doubt not but you will long before you receive this hear of Lord Loudon's safe Arrival, he is now at Albany & probably will for some time continue there as the Provincials will not accept of the Assistance or act in Conjunction with any of the Regular Troops on the Expedition agst Crown Point. however His Lordship has disposed of two Regiments in such a manner as to keep open the Communication between the Provincial Army & Albany, & to cover their Retreat in case they should prove less succesfull than they themselves expect. General Abercrombie is gone to Oswego but we fear that as the French are

Letter Bk. I. superiour on the Lake he will not be able to act offensively this Season. Since I left the Frontiers an Accident has happened in Pens[a] which has a good deal alarmed the Inhabitants; You may remember that last Sept[r] & Oct[r] several Forts were ordered to be constructed on the Frontiers of that Province & that a considerable Number of Men were voted by the Assembly to garrison them & protect the Inhabitants, one of these Forts called Fort Granville was built on Juniata about 20 Miles West of the Susquehanna River & has been generally garrisoned with a Company of 70 Men, during the time of Harvest large Detachments it seems have been always out to cover the People while they were employed in securing their Grain & at the time when the Fort was attacked there was but a Subaltern & 25 private Men therein. The party of French & Indians who attacked it found means to set the Fort on fire & in attempting to extinguish it the Subaltern & some Men were killed whereupon the Rest surrendered Prisoners at Discretion; the Enemy having utterly destroyed the Fort erected a French Flag & were marching off with the Prisoners towards the Ohio when one of them made his Escape, & by him we have the preceeding Account, I cannot learn what Number of the Enemy there was but we are told that a French Letter was left near the place where the Fort stood. As I apprehended that the French would e'er long teach their Indian Allies to approach & set fire to our Stoccado or Wooden Forts I thought proper
p. 222 to build Fort Frederick of Stone, which Step I beleive even our Assembly will now approve of tho I hear some of them sometime since intimated to their Constituents that a Stoccado would have been sufficient & that to build a Fort with Stone would put the Country to a great & unnecessary Expence, but whatever their Sentiments may be with respect to that matter I am convinced that I have done for the best & that my Conduct therein will be approved of by any Soldier & by every impartial person. The Fort is not finished but the Garrison are well covered & will with a little Assistance compleat it at their leisure. Our Barracks are made for the Reception & Accomodation of 200 Men but on Occasion there will be room for twice that number it is situated on the North Mountain near Potowmack River about 14 Miles beyond Conegochiegh & four on this Side Licking Creek, I have made a purchase in the Governor's Name for the use of the Country of 150 Acres of Land that is contiguous to it which will be of great Service to the Garrison & as well as the Fort be found of great use in case of future Expeditions to the Westward for it is so situated that Potowmack will be always navigable thence almost to Fort Cumberland, the Flatts or Shallows of that River lying between Fort Frederick & Conegochiegh. It is

probable this Fortification will cost the province £2000. but I Letter Bk. I.
am told that one is raising at Winchester in Virg[a] that will not be built for less than four times that Sum & when finished will not be half so good. We have now recruiting Parties in every County. from the Royal Americans & the Nova Scotia Regiments who distress the people exceedingly by taking their Servants agreeable to the Act of Parliament which is said to have passed however I think the People richly deserve it, they have brought it on themselves & they & the Pensilvanians will feel the Burthen of it as there are more Indented Servants in these two Colonies than in all the Rest & as the people cannot well manage their Business without their Assistance. Some of our Planters in Baltimore have I hear risen on the Officers & rescued their Servants by force but I shall instantly take effectual Measures to prevent Attempts of that Sort for the future, lest the Officers should complain that His Majesty's p. 223
Service is obstructed by Connivance of the Government. This I foresee will lay me under great Difficulties, for the People how ungrateful soever they may be will expect that I should protect them, & my giving the least Countenance to the Recruiting Officers will probably bring on me the ill Will of the people, while both my Duty to His Majesty & the present State of our Affairs on the Continent incline or rather compel me to encourage the Recruiting Service to the utmost of my power

I am S[r] &c.

P. S. Since the above was writ I have received Letters advising me that a party of Indians came down from Pens[a] on the Inhabitants of this Province who dwelt near Conegochiegh & have cut off many of them, thus if the Pensilvanians do not stand their Ground we shall have not only a Western but a Northern Frontier also to defend ag[st] those Savage Enemies.

[Denny to Sharpe.] Original.

Philadelphia August 23[d] 1756—

Sir

The Proprietaries having done me the Honor, with the Kings Approbation, to appoint me the Governor of this Province, I take this opportunity to inform you of my having published their Commission and taken upon me the Administration.

I shall be extreamly glad to embrace all occasions of promoting his Majesty's Service and the General Interest of the Colonies, and as without an Union of Councils and a good

Correspondence between the several Governors little good is to be expected, I shall take the Liberty to communicate to you from time to time whatever Intelligence I shall receive as well as the several Steps I shall take for the Publick Service, upon which I shall be obliged to you to give me your sentiments, which will always have a great weight with me.

I hope I shall be enabled to act with spirit at this important Iuncture when nothing less than the preservation of this Province in particular and that of the Colonies in general is so nearly concerned.

It will give me sensible pleasure if in the Course of my Administration I shall have it in my power to render you any Service. I am

Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
William Denny.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

23d of August 1756—

Sr

I embrace this Opportunity by Colo Ludwell to thank you for your Letter of the 10th of Iune & the Treaty therein contained, while I was on our Frontiers at Fort Frederick Colo Washington paid me a Visit & informed me that he was also by your Orders raising a strong Fort at Winchester to which as soon as it should be compleated the Stores were to be removed from Fort Cumberland this Step is in my Opinion very expedient as there is no probability of our carrying on an Expedition to the westward this Season & lest such a Bait should before next Spring allure the Enemy & induce them to attack that Fort the Reduction of which a large Body of them may not think impracticable. This morning I have received a Letter from Governor Morris wherein he informs me that Fort Granville (which the Pensila Commissioners had constructed last year on the Western Frontiers of that Province was on the 30th ult attacked & burnt by a Body of French assisted by a Number of Indians all under the Command of a French Officer. There were but a Lieutt & 24 Men in the Fort when it was attacked the Rest of the Garrison & Officers being out to cover some people who were reaping & securing their Grain. The Lieutt & a few men being killed the Rest of the Garrison surrendered & were all except him who brings this Account carried away prisoners the young Men & the Women by the French & the older Men & Children by the Indians On

or near the place where the Fort stood they set up & left a French Flag & also as it is said a French Lett[r] but of the Lett[r] Gov[r] Morris says nothing. This Accident & some Ravages that have been lately committed in Cumberland County has it seems so terrified the Pensilvanians who were setled in that part of the Country that they are deserting their Habitations very fast & will probably e'er long unless the Assembly makes better provision for their Defence all retire over the Susquehanna which Governor Morris says he expects will be their extreme Frontier. As the Inhabitants have evacuated a Fort that was built at M[c]Dowel's Mill & which kept the Communication open between the Inhabitants & Forts Shirley & Littleton M[r] Morris seems in pain for those two places which he says if all Communication with them should be cut off would become an easy Conquest but to prevent so fatal an Accident I propose if the Council whom I am just about to meet approve thereof to order one of our Officers & a Detachment of 50 men from Fort Frederick to M[c]Dowels or some other of their Forts till their Assembly which is met come to some Resolution & can send their Back-Inhabitants some assistance, Fort Granville was according to the Information I have heretofore been able to get situated a little to the Northw[d] of the Iuniata & about 23 Miles west from the mouth of that River. Forts Lyttelton & Shirley lie to the Southward of Iuniata, the latter about 20 miles Eastward of Ray's Town & 25 North of one I had built near Potowmack on Tonallaway Creek, which our Assembly by the Act they made last Session for granting a Supply for the Defence of this Province obliged me to abandon & destroy because it was five or Six Miles beyond our present Settlements The Fort which I have been building & which I have left our Troops to finish is almost close on Potowmack & upon the North Mountain We face the Bastions & Curtains with Stone & shall mount on each of the Bastions a Six pounder. The Barracks will receive & lodge very commodiously 200 Men beside Officers & on Occasion near twice that number. I do not know whether our Commissioners will have Money enough to compleat it agreeable to my Plan, as yet I think it has not cost more than £1000 & even that some of our Patriots seem to think a large Sum & have intimated to their Constituents that a Stoccado Fort would have been sufficient & might have been built at a much less Expence. however I persuade myself that this Accident which has happened in Pensilvania will incline those Gent[n] to change their Opinion, & convince them that excessive Frugality is not always the best Oeconomy. I do not learn from Col[o] Ludwell that Lord Loudon expects much from these two Colonies this year, if His Ldp writes to you otherwise or if you think of

Letter Bk. III

Letter Bk. III convening your Assembly on the Receipt of His Letters I shall be much obliged to you for advising me thereof, as I also should for Copies of your two last Supply Bills—with the greatest Regard I am &c

[Sharpe to Gov. Lyttelton.]

23d of August. 1756.

Sir

I am favoured with your Letter advising me of Your safe Arrival in your Governmt upon which I heartily congratulate you & wish you much Ease & Satisfaction in your Administration. As I am persuaded that a Friendly Correspondence between the Governors of these several Colonies is in the present State of Affairs exceedingly expedient, your Declaration on that head is very acceptable & I beg leave to assure you that I shall with the greatest Readiness contribute as much as is in my power towards the Execution of any thing whereby His Majesty's Service may be promoted. I should have done Myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of Yours sooner but had no Opportunity of Conveyance from the Western Frontiers of this Province where I have been a considerable time building a Fort, & whence I am but just returned. A few Days since a Party of Indians did some Mischief in this Province but an Accident which happened in Pensa the 30th Ult has much more alarmed the Frontier Inhabitants of that Colony & made them think of retiring to the more populous parts of the Country Eastward of Susquehanna. One of the Forts that were built last year on the Western Side of Susquehanna (called Fort Granville situated on the Juniata about 20 miles Distance from its mouth was on the Day abovementioned attacked & utterly destroyed by a party of French & Indians suposed to be about 150 under the Command of a French Officer, the Garrison at that time consisted of a Lieutt & 24 men only, the rest near 50 in Number being out to cover some people who were reaping & getting in their Grain. The Lieutenant & a few of the men being killed & the Fort set on fire by the Enemy those who survived surrendered prisoners at Discretion & were carried off by the French who fixed up & left on or near the place where the Fort stood a White Flag this is all the News I can send you from these parts; from the Northward I hear nothing but that the provincial Troops are on their march toward Crown Point alone, having determined in a general Council that they would not accept of the Assistance of two of the European Regiments which Lord Loudon offered His Lordship has however ordered the Regiments to cover them & keep the Communication open between Lake George & the Inhabitants. I am &c—

[Sharpe to Gov. Lawrence.] Letter Bk. III

24th of August 1756—

Sir

I am favoured with your Letter dated at Hallifax the 1st of Iuly & in Answer thereto beg leave to assure you that None of the French who were imported into this Province last year from Nova Scotia have been suffered either by Land or Water to return again thither. I did indeed sometime ago hear that those who were by you sent to S° Carolina had embarked in some small Vessels & were returning Northwd but I could never learn that any of them landed in this province to refresh themselves or on any other Account; You may be assured that if any of them should hereafter touch here I will prevent their reembarking & that I will by having the inclosed Act of Assembly strictly put in Execution within this Government hinder any of those that were sent hither from returning to give you Trouble or Uneasiness

I am &c

[Sharpe to Morris.]

25th of Augst 1756—

Sir

I am now to thank you for several Letters that You favoured Me with while I was on the Frontiers & to beg your Pardon for delaying so long to acknowledge the Receipt of them. I hear Mr Pownall has thought proper to publish his Reasons for refusing the Governt of Pensa I cannot take upon me to say whether he deserves the Applause that he receives of some for that Behaviour, tho' it must be presumed he knew best what Step it was most advisable for him to take when he declined accepting Mr Penn's Offer, No doubt as you intimate he has a more desirable Governt in view & tho he should fail of that he cannot I am told miss of Pensilva whenever the Governors of that Province shall become elective. On the Receipt of the Letter of the 15th Inst. acquainting me with the Reduction of Fort Granville. I was about to send Orders to Capt Dagworthy to send a Detachment of 50 Men from Fort Frederick to cover Your People & keep open the Communication between Forts Lyttelton & Shirley & your Inhabitants, but the same Morning before the Council (without whose Advice I could not regularly order our Rangers out of the Province) could meet an Express arrived with Letters from Fort Frederick & the Frontiers advising me that a large party of French & Indians made an Incursion into this Province also & cut off many of our People who dwelt on or near Conegochiegh. One of the

Letter Bk. III Parties that Dagworthy sent out on the Alarm discovered Ten of the Enemy but could not come up with them as they left their Luggage & ran off as soon as our Men appeared. I find the People of Frederick have been terrified by these Accidents at least as much as those of Cumberland County & that if your distant Inhabitants should once begin to retire to the more populous parts of Pens[a] ours will instantly follow their Example. I am sorry to find that notwithstanding the unhappy Condition of many of their Constituents Your Assembly seem still determined to persevere in their old Course & that the Ease & Satisfaction which you should have enjoyed is to be all reserved for your Successor, but since that must be the Case I hope he will agreeable to Your own Desire soon releive you on Condition that our Friendship survives your Title & that you will after you become a private Gentleman continue to favour me with your Correspondence. If your Assembly should continue the Act for an Embargo please to advise me thereof that I may make the proposal to ours tho I apprehend they will not be very fond of it & will be apt to say that Virg[a] as well as Pens[a] should first set us an Example. They are to meet the 4[th] of Oct[r] next to hear what has been lately recommended to us & them by the Secretary of State's Circular Letters particularly by that concerning Indented Servants. Pray have you seen or can you get me a Copy of the Act of Parliament that is said to have been made to impower the Officers to enlist them. An Extract of such an Act has been produced here but as it is not authenticated Some of our People question whether they are obliged to pay strict Obedience thereto. The Officers however of the Nova Scotia Regiment have enlisted great Numbers of our Servants & paid for some of them (whose Term was about to expire) in proportion to the purchase Money that their Masters gave for them & the time they had to serve. A few of the Planters it is said have made some Opposition & taken away their Servants from the Officers but I shall endeavour to prevent any thing of that Sort for the future, tho many of the Lower Class of People will be ruined by these proceedings unless the Assembly grants them Releif, Pray how is the Act relished in Pens[a] I shall only desire our Assembly to appropriate part of the £40000 to reimburse the Masters whose Servants have or may enlist & as I have no Favours to ask of them at this time they may possibly come to some Resolution by the time that the Campaign can be closed & Lord Loudoun send me farther Orders. how ended Your Treaty with the Delawares? I beleive their name is not in great Esteem with our back-Inhabitants notwithstanding Your Treaty & General Abercrombie's & S[r] W[m] Iohnson's Lett[rs] in their favour. That you may enjoy perfect health & be happy is the sincere Wish of D[r] S[r] &c

[Sharpe to Gardner.]

Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67. p. 129

S^r^

Your Letters of the 15^th^ & 21^st^ Instant have been received and laid before his Lordship's Council, by whose Advice I now desire and recommend it to you to take your Evidences before some Provincial or County Magistrate & let them make Oath to the Truth of what you alledge against Mr. Ridgley and several other Persons of Baltimore County the Magistrate will thereupon issue his Warrant and have the Offenders brought before him, and on their Appearance will bind them over to the next Assizes for that County at which you will attend with your Witnesses, and I shall give Orders to the Attorney General to do his Duty on that Occasion. I hope that by this Means all Cause of future Complaints from Gentlemen who may be sent hither on the recruiting Service will be removed and that an effectual Stop will be put to Such violent Proceedings as are mentioned in your Letter. You may be assured that I shall always to the utmost Power Encourage and promote the Service in which you are engaged, and from his past Conduct I flatter myself the Gentleman to whom you say you applied will by his Behaviour on this Occasion convince you that none is more disposed than himself to forward and promote his Majesty's Officers.

I am S^r^ &c.

H. S.

Annapolis 26 August 1756

To Captain Gardner &c.

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

Letter Bk. III

30^th^ of August 1756—

My Ld

Your Favour of the 20^th^ Inst. advising Me of the unhappy Accident that you conclude has happened to the westward I have just received, for the early Intelligence I return Your Ldp thanks as it might be a means of preventing in some measure the fatal Consequences that these Colonies have reason to apprehend from such an Event. We have already 200 Men in & about Fort Frederick which I have been building on our Western Frontiers & I have now ordered 200 of the Militia also to patroll on this Side the Fort to cover the Inhabitants or on Occasion to act in Conjunction with the Garrison. Your Ldp has been already informed that there is in our Treasury £25,000 Currency which is appropriated towards carrying on an Expedition to the westward. Part of this I persuade Myself the Assembly will agree to appropriate otherwise, I shall

Letter Bk. III instantly convene them & laying Your Ldps Lett[r] before them exhort them to take such Measures as the present posture of Affairs requires. Instructions shall be also immediately sent to the Military & Civil Officers of every County to enlist Men for the Royal Americans agreeable to Your Lordship's Commands & nothing shall be wanting on my Part to prevail on the Assembly to defray that Expence but if I should in that particular be unsucsessful I shall take the Liberty to draw on your Ldp as I must advance the Money myself to the Officers to whom I shall send such Instructions. If no Officer from the American Regiments shall happen to be in these parts I will send what Levies I can get to Phil[a] as Such an Embargo shall be laid on all outward-bound Vessels laden with Provisions as your Ldp directs & I shall always take the greatest pleasure in being able to execute any other Commands that your Ldp may think proper to signify to Y[r] Ldp's &c—

[Sharpe to Col. Belt.]

Liber J. R. & U. S. p. 132 S[r]

As some Advices which I have just received give me great Room to fear that a large Body of ffrench and Indians will very shortly make a Descent on this Province, and endeavour to break up at once, all our Settlem[ts] in the Western Parts of Frederick County, and as it is thought expedient and necessary to march a considerable number of the Militia to cover and
p. 133 protect the distant Inhabitants and on occasion to act in Conjunction with the Troops that have been raised and are posted at Fort Frederick, and other places beyond Conegocheige, I do hereby with the Advice of his Lordship's Council of State, order & require you as soon as possible to send from the Militia of your County a Detachment of 100 Men under the Command of a Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign to Fort Frederick, where they will be joined by another Detachment of the same number. After their Arrival at that Fort they will be supplied with provisions by the Commissary M[r] Ross, and on their March thither the Officer must apply to the press masters for such provisions and Carriages as shall be necessary with which the press Masters are forthwith to furnish him on his presenting my warrant, and passing such Receipts as the Act of Assembly requires they may be supplied with some Arms and Ammunition by Captain Peter Butler of Frederick Town, but I would advise them to provide themselves with both before they march. You must see that every man takes with him a Blanket & Cloaths enough for a Month from their Arrival at ffrederick Town before the Expiration of which Month they

will be relieved. These Detachments from the Militia are to patroll between the North Mountain and Conegocheige, the Comandant of ffort ffrederick will order two Guides or persons who are acquainted with that part of the Country, to join each of them, and in case it should by him and the Colonel of ffrederick County be thought necessary for the Detachments from the Militia to act in Conjunction, they are to put themselves under the Command of Colonel Thomas Prather who lives near Conegocheige. You will give the Captain whom you shall order from your County a Copy of these Instructions, and direct him to keep a Iournal of his proceedings while on Duty to be returned me for the Assembly's perusal; you may also give him any other additional Instructions that you think necessary for his better Guidance and Direction. Liber J. R. & U. S.

H: Sharpe

Given at Annapolis
30th of August 1756.

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.] Letter Bk. III

Augst 30th 1756—

Sr

The inclosed I have just received by Express, the Lettr from Ld Loudoun will advise you of the Loss of Oswego & of the Vessels we had on Ontario Lake. That from the Admiralty Office I presume contains Instructions to you for granting Letters of Reprizal, if it does I shall be much obliged to you for a Copy of them & of such a Commission as you would grant by virtue thereof. As no such Letter or Instructions are sent me, should Applications be made to me for Letters of Marque & Reprizal what would you advise me to do on such an Occasion. Our Assembly meets the first Monday in October I apprehend you will convene yours also, on the Receipt of Lord Loudon's Lettr Be pleased to let me know what Day you appoint for them & what you expect they will do in Consequence of His Ldp's Lettr—

[Sharpe to Denny.] Letter Bk. III

August 30th 1756—

Sr

Your Letters dated the 23d & 26th Inst. I am just favoured with & heartily congratulate you on your Appointment to the Govt of Pensa & Your Arrival in that Province, most sincerely wishing you an easy & happy Administration; Your Opinion

Letter Bk. III that a Correspondence between the several Governors of these Colonies is at this time highly expedient is exactly agreeable to my own Sentiments & I beg leave to assure you that I shall be proud of & shall endeavour to deserve your Confidence & friendly Correspondence & that I shall on all Occasions freely communicate to you on any Matter whereby these Colonies may possibly be affected or His Majesty's Service promoted— The Letter you was pleased to inclose me from Ld Loudoun advises me as you imagined of the unhappy Accident that he suspects has happened on Ontario Lake. Your Apprehensions that this will have the worst Effect on the Indian Nations are I am afraid too well grounded & I am of Your Opinion that unless We can carry the War into the Enemy's Country We shall in vain endeavour to secure our own. We have already 200 Men on our Frontiers but on this News I have ordered out 200 of the Militia to act in Conjunction with them & endeavour to cover our Western Settlements. The Letters that were directed for the Governors of the Southern Colonies I have dispatched to Gov^{r} Dinwiddie. I shall meet our Assembly as soon as possible & recommend it to them to take such Measures on this Occasion as the present posture of Affairs requires, if Your Assembly sets a good Example, early Advice of it might contribute much to my Success & would much oblige S^{r} Y^{rs}—

Original. [Morris to Sharpe.]

Sir

M^{r} Brook who will have the honor to deliver you this is a gentleman that has for some time filld a Mission at New Castle and has behaved in such a manner as to gain the esteem not only of his congregation but of many others in this Province. He tells me that the air of New Castle does not agree with his health and obliges him to seek a settlement in his native country Maryland, You will permit me to give him this testimonial of his behavour and to recomend him as a sensible worthy man to your notice and favour. I have the Honor to be

Sir
Your Most Obed^{t}
Humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} H. Morris

Philad^{a} Augst 30.
1756.
Gov^{r} Sharpe

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Septem^{r} 2^{d} 1756.

Sir

I wrote you last Saturday by the Post, since that I received your Letter by Col^{o} Ludwell & remark its Contents, I have ordered Col^{o} Washington, to remove some of the Stores from fort Cumberland to Winchester, but by no means to abandon that fort, as such a Step would greatly encourage the Enemy, and if I be properly informed two hundred Men will defend it against one Thousand or more if they bring no Cannon against it, and I think it more than probable that next Spring an Expedition will be conducted against fort Du Quesne, so that the defending that Fortress this Winter, I think necessary & will be of great Service to all the Colonies to the Southward, if you agree with me in opinion, some Men from your Province to that Place will be very necessary.

I have no Letter from M^{r} Morris in regard to the Enemys taking fort Granville, but it's no more than might be expected from the inactive lethargick Supines of that Colony, or shall we ever be at ease till the Enemy is drove from the Ohio, they have committed many Cruelties in Augusta County, & I fear will continue their Barbarity, unless Pensylvania, Maryland, & this Colony raise forces, and join in a Body to repell their force; our protecting the different frontiers only gives them the Advantage of invading us where we are weakest, and I fear they have very good Intelligence of all our Motions from some Villains among us.

I hope the Pensylvania Assembly will do something handsome, now they have got a new Governor.

I am surpris'd your Assembly ordered the abandoning the fort you had built on Tonolloway Creek because it was five Miles without your Inhabitants. I am glad you have begun so good a Fort near Patoemack, which undoubtedly will be of great use, if they allow Men sufficient to garrison it. The excessive Frugality of the different Collonies is shameful, & far from good Oeconomy or self Preservation.

Lord Loudoun has wrote me strongly for recruits for the Royal Americans, but I am afraid I shall not be able to comply with his orders, but shall do all in my Power. I enclose you one of our Supply Bills for £40,000 which I conceive will answer your Purpose. I formerly sent you a Copy of the Light house Bill being passed here & lyes now with the King & Councell & will meet with the Royal Assent; if your Assembly will pass one similar thereto in case you shou'd have mislaid it, I send you inclos'd a ruf Copy thereof, and I doubt not you will agree with me the necessity thereof, as a fort is proposed to be built to mount twelve eighteen Pounders, which

will be a Protection to the Trade of both Colonies from Privateers, several last War, came within the Capes & took several of our Vessels, please, press it on your Assembly, & write me their opinion thereon.

Your Letter of the 30th by the Express I received with the Melancholy Account of the Loss of Oswego, the Vessels on Lake Ontario, & the Train of Artillery lodged in that Fortress, which is confirmed by Lord Loudoun's Letter to me, and I think he complains that Affairs were in great disorder on his Arrival. The Loss of that important Place is extreemly unlucky & if we don't succeed against Crown Point, its more than probable we will loose all the Indians, and very likely they will come down the Ohio, and invade these Colonies, we are in a bad Situation to repell their force, but it may be hoped that these Prospects may infuse a Spirit of resentment into our People, & do at last, what they should have begun with. I have sent for the Councill to meet me to morrow to consult with them on the present Emergency, and if the Assembly are to meet I shall give you notice thereof. By my Instructions I am directed to grant Letters of Mark, or Comissions, for private Vessells of War, & no doubt you have such an Instruction, if not I think his Majesty's Declaration of War qualifies you to grant them, as it's the Duty of every person in Command to do every thing in their Power to distress the Enemy. I send you Copy of what I have from the Board of Admiralty, which relates only to the condemning Ships & Goods. I have granted one Comission Copy of the form I also inclose you.

It's impossible to say what the Assembly will do, but when met shall give you notice thereof, in the mean Time I think it absolutely necessary to urge the different Assemblies, to vote handsomely for the raising a considerable number of Men, and in Case of an Invasion on any one of them, that the whole should join in a Body to repell their Force.

I am extreemely hurried in writing to the Govrs to the Southward must therefore leave of by assuring you I am with respects

Your Excellency's
Most obedient humble servant
Robt Dinwiddie—

Lower House Journal, 1754-57. P. 344

[Hall to Sharpe.]

Baltimore Town 5th of Septr 1756.

Sir

Your Instructions of the 30th of August last came to hand the same Evening, and agreable to said Orders we have

Drafted out of the Militia of this County one Hundred men to march under the Command of Capt. Tobias Stansbury as ꝑ the Inclosed List; there is a few more but have Ordered the Capt to discharge all but the above number. Also three young Gentlemen are gone out Voluntiers near one half them have no Arms, Part of those they have the Capt. has Ordered to be impressed from a man near this Town which were for Sale, he has also taken the Ammunition Lodged in this place. Lower House Journal, 1754–57

I am also to inform your Excellency that one William Roberts (who is esteemed a Man of Credit) was with us Yesterday, and says he came through the South Mountain Thursday last, this side of which he saw four Houses burnt about four Miles from Major Ogles and that a Messenger came to him yesterday morning to give him an Account that four men were killed the same day he came through Mountain and at the same Gap he pass'd which is not above Sixty five Miles from this Place altho' the Danger is so near it was with great Difficulty we got the number of Men. p. 345

I also received your Letter of 31st of August inclosing your Recruiting Instructions I observe your orders and will do all in my power to get Men.

I am Your Excellencys
Most Humble Servant
John Hall.

[J. Belt to Sharpe.] p. 344

To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esquire
Governor of Maryland.

May it please your Excellency.

I have the pleasure to Inform your Excellency that the Detachment of a Hundred Ordered from the Militia of Prince Georges County was made up intirely of Voluntiers, as ꝑ List herewith, and that they all, except one sick man marched from Bladensburg on Saturday the 12th Instant in high Spirits, under the Command of Capt. Ioshua Beall, with the Instructions received from your Excellency for his Guidance.

I am apprehensive this may have taken longer time, than your Excellency expected but had it been effected with more Dispatch, the Detachment would probably consisted Chiefly of Draughted men, and I presume there cannot be the same Dependance of Service from those, as may be Reasonably expected from Voluntiers; many of ours, are of Good Familly, and have Considerable property to defend and have Enter'd into the Service of their Country, with the greatest Alacrity.

Lower House Journal, 1754-57

I delivered a Copy of the Recruiting Instructions to each Captain of our Militia, with Orders to be Deligent, And I am Sorry we have not hither met with any Success.

I am Your Excellency's Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Jos: Belt.

[Sept. 1756.]

Original.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Septem^{r} 8th 1756.

Sir

I wrote you by your Express, to which please be referr'd, I called the Councell, which agreable to Lord Loudoun's Letter, we laid a Prohipition on the Exportation of all manner of Provisions, which you may observe by the enclosed Gazette. I have summoned the Assembly to meet the 20th when I hope they will seriously consider our present Situation, & do what is absolutely necessary in the present Exigency of our Affairs.

I would gladly hope Oswego is not taken, Lord Loudoun's Letter to me is the 20th where he mentions his receiving Account thereof the night before, & I have Letters from New York of the 23^{d} that takes not the least notice of it.

This Express I send to Lord Loudoun he desires me to raise recruits for the Royal Americans, and send them directly to him, it's impossible to raise Men so soon, as to send them to Albany to be in Service this fall, however I am doing all in my Power to raise what Men I possibly can, but it will be attended with great Difficulties, unless I procure an Act of Assembly to make a general Draft from the Militia. I suppose you will see it proper to lay a Prohibition on the Exportation of Provisions from your Colony, as I think it ought to be general in all the Colonies. I remain with great respect

Your Excell^{cys}
Most obedient humble Serv^{t}
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

Governor Sharpe.

Letter Bk. I. p. 223

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

13th of Sept^{r} 1756.

My Ld

I am sorry I should have such News to communicate but by the inclosed Gazette your Ldp will see that Oswego with its Guns Stores &c & the Vessels that Gen^{l} Shirley had built on Ontario Lake is fallen into the Enemy's hands, this Account

is confirmed to me by the Earl of Loudoun but His Ldp does Letter Bk. I.
not in his Letter descend to particulars or acquaint me with
the State of the Garrison tho it is asserted & generally beleived
that they were all but a few put to the Sword after the Com-
manding Officer had signed a Capitulation. This unhappy
Event has I find thrown the Northern Colonies into great Con-
sternation as they can no longer question whether the French
have a large Army in America & as their hopes concerning
the Success of the Provincials agst Crown Point become less
sanguine as the winter approaches. I do not hear that they p. 224
are yet in Motion from the Fort that was built last year on
Lake George & it is rumoured that they will hardly act offen-
sively this Summer. Immediately on the Receipt of Lord
Loudoun's Letter I summoned the Assembly to meet to morrow
when I shall in Obedience to His Lordship's Commands recom-
mend it to them in the most earnest manner to appropriate
part of the money lately granted towards raising a Number of
Recruits for the Royal American Regiment which is not likely
to be otherwise compleated & unless these Colonies will make
Laws for Levying men at this Conjuncture to fill that Regi-
ment & reinforce His Ldp 'tis not improbable that the French
will presume on this Conquest to advance farther into the
Province of New York or one of these Colonies with such a
Force as it might be difficult in the present Situation of Affairs
for His Lordship to oppose. The Pensilvania Assembly has
been sitting a Fortnight & seem still disposed to proceed in a
way that affords Governor Denny no very agreeable Prospect.
They have sent him a Bill for £60,000 to be sunk as it is said
in 20 years tho they saw from some Instructions that were laid
before them that it was absolutely out of his power to accept
any Money Bill in such a Form. Should they persist in their
Obstinacy & refuse granting Aid to Lord Loudoun or a Sup-
ply for the Defence of their own Frontiers the Loss of Oswego
will not I am afraid be the only Misfortune that will happen to
us this Campaign. What can hinder the Indians or a Body of
French from advancing into the Heart of that Province? Cum-
berland Co^{ty} is I hear already entirely abandoned & the Indians
have lately fallen on the Inhabitants of York County, the
Western Limits of which do not extend beyond Monoccasy
which Your Ldp will be pleased to observe is not more than
70 or 80 Miles from this place. The Flight of the Pensilvani- p. 225
ans from the Western Parts of that Province has left our
Northern Frontier beyond Monoccasy much exposed, the
Enemy has now free Access to us thro Pens^{a} & if some Meas-
ures are not speedily taken for the Defence of that Colony
neither Fort Frederick nor its Garrison can be of much Service,
for our People will follow the Pensilvanian's Example, a Pas-

Letter Bk. I. sion very different from true Patriotism or Courage seeming to have entire Possession of their Souls. Beside the Garrison of Fort Frederick we have at present 200 men from the Militia of Baltimore & Prince Georges Counties distributed on this Side that Fort & about Conegochiegh, yet that Settlement is I am advised almost broke up & several hundred Persons have lately retreated thence & retired to the more populous part of the County. Thus My Ld do these Colonies feel the horrid Consequences of each others Remissness, vain must be the Efforts of any single one of them & nothing less than a united Exertion of their Strength can secure any from all the Calamities of an Indian War. to put a Stop to the Incursions & Devastations of these Barbarians they must act in Conjunction & not content themselves with building Forts on their own Frontiers, Let a Body of Men be marched to the Westward & Another Expedition be undertaken by these Colonies before the Enemy have farther strengthened themselves on the Ohio & the Indians as well as their French Conductors will find other Business than that which they have for this twelve month most successfully pursued. But alass this proposition is not likely to meet with our Assembly's Concurrence neither will they be prevailed on to carry on an Offensive instead of a defensive War tho Experience teaches us that the latter cannot avert our Ruin. I have now given Your Lordship a true account of the Situation of Your Ldp's & the neighbouring Provinces & opened to Your Ldp the Prospect that presents itself at this Conjuncture. Much will depend on the Resolu-
p. 226 tions of our Assemblies who are all sitting or about to meet at this time. I hope for the best from them but confess my Expectations are not very sanguine.

A Vessel that is to sail next week will bring Your Ldp an Account of what is likely to be done here & 'twill give me the greatest pleasure if I shall be then able to send Your Ldp such an Account as may be agreeable, to do every thing that might afford Your Ldp Satisfaction being the utmost Ambition of your Ldps &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

14th Septr 1756 transmitted by Capt Scott Duplicates by Capt Sr

Inclosed I send you Copies of all the Laws that were passed at the Conclusion of the last Session of Assembly together with a Duplicate of a few Remarks thereon. You will also receive herewith an Account in the Gazette of the Loss of Oswego together with its Garrison, Guns, Stores, Ammunition

& also of all the Vessels that General Shirley had built on Letter Bk. I.
Ontario Lake. This News is confirmed to me by a Lett[r] from
Lord Loudoun who is at Albany but His Ldp does not descend
to particulars neither have we any other Information concerning
the Number of the Enemy or Fate of the Garrison than what is
given us in the publick Papers. In his Lett[r] His Ldp is very
importunate with us for Levies for the Royal American Regi-
ment without the Assistance of which he apprehends it would
be difficult to oppose the Enemy should they presume to
advance into Pens[a] or the Province of New York before the
People can recover from the Consternation into which they are
thrown by this unhappy Accident. Our Assembly is to meet
this Day to consider of the present Situation of Affairs & to
appropriate (I hope) part of the £40000 in such a manner as
His Ldp is pleased to direct I do not conceive they will p. 227
refuse to comply with His Ldp's Requisition at this Critical
Juncture but sure I am that they will not send Men out of this
Province without the greatest Reluctance & unless an Act be
made for drafting them from the several Counties I am certain
t'will be impossible to raise any Number of free Men in this
Province. Few but Indented Servants have enlisted with the
Recruiting Officers that have been sent among us & that
Method of recruiting will distress the Country infinitely more
than a Decimation of its free Inhabitants. I am glad an Act
of Parliament is passed directing in what manner Servants may
be enlisted for That if any thing can will induce the Assem-
blies to take the Burden of Recruiting on themselves thereby
to prevent the Officers coming among us. The Pensilvania
Assembly has been sometime sitting but without any Design
as it is said of taking such Measures as the present posture of
Affairs & the deplorable Circumstances of their distant Inhab-
itants demand. You will observe what different Sentiments
Governor Denny & the Assembly entertain of the Condition of
the Frontiers of that Province, You may easily guess how
Maryland is covered by them when you are told that they have
scarce a Family remaining to the Westward of Monoccasy
which runs by Frederick Town in this Province, that the
Quakers have put Pensilvania in a better Posture of Defence
than the neighbouring Colonies & prevented the frequent
Incursions of the Indians the Publick Papers will no doubt
shew, to me 'tis really astonishing that the Assembly should
advance such Things & proceed in such a manner when they
are on the very Brink of Ruin & when nothing but the Exertion
of their whole Strength can avert the imminent Destruction
that threatens them. As the Pensilvanians retire & give the
Indians free Access to our Northern Frontier our People flee p. 228
also & tho the Garrison at Fort Frederick & the Detachments

Letter Bk. I. of Militia on our Western Frontiers amount to 400 Men, yet the fine Settlement on Conegochiegh is quite deserted & few Inhabitants now remain beyond the South Mountain. What an Opinion will this give you of our hardy & resolute Germans, Experience teaches us that they are possessed with much the same Spirit as the Natives & that Bravery is by no means their distinguishing Characteristic. It has been rumoured that the Provincials will be scarcely able to proceed to Crown Point this Season, they have suffered it seems a good deal from Sickness & do not themselves entertain such sanguine hopes of Success as they were used to do. You may observe in the Gazette that there is room to hope Commodore Holmes has taken some French Men of War off of Louisburg but We do not always put entire Confidence in New England Fisher Men. Since I received His Majesty's Declaration of War I have been applied to for Letters of Marque which it is usual for Governors as Vice-Admirals to issue in these Colonies but you will be pleased to remember & remind His Ldp that I have no Commission to act as Vice Admiral in this Province tho His Ldp has appointed a Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty. I have myself undertaken to make out & with the Judges of the Land Office to examine & authenticate a Rent Roll for this County which I hoped to have compleated very shortly but this extraordinary Session of Assembly will occasion some Delay as I shall find but little time for such Business while they are sitting. Inclosed you will see a Packett directed for M^r^ Iohn Hide which is left open that you may if you will give Yourself the trouble observe what a Task he desires to impose on me upon the Hint you gave him concerning the Lands in Baltimore County I am throughly convinced by his Conversation in
p. 229 London, His Transactions here & by the Letters & Papers which I now return him that he is absolutely averse to selling the Land or satisfying the Creditors & that all he endeavours at is to save Appearances.

I find there is little owing from his Lands to My Ld, The Farmers having made payment to His Ldp & whenever the Land shall be occupied the Farmers will recover the Arrears of Quit Rent. I have been unable as yet to get a Bill of Excha for you or that of Parker's renewed, I am promised one within these two or three Days but Capt Steuart waits for my Letter & the Duplicate must be put on board a Vessel that sails to Morrow. however I shall have an Opportunity of transmitting it next Week & in the mean time am S^r^ &c.

P. S. Since writing the above I have got Bills for £110 w^ch^ You will find inclosed.

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.] Letter Bk. III

15th Septr 1756—

Dr Br

My last Lettr to Br Iohn & Yrself was dated the 13th of Iuly at Fort Frederick a place of Defence that I was constructing on the Western Frontiers of the Province at the Distance of about 125 Miles from this place. As soon as some Barracks were finished for the Accomodation of the Garrison; & the other Works raised enough to cover the Men & to give the Officers an Idea of what I would have done, I took my Leave of them & returned hither the 16th of last month having appointed that Day for publishing His Majesty's Declaration of War which I had received by Lord Loudoun. Since that time a Party of Indians has advanced into Pensilva reduced one of the Forts that Governor Morris & the Commissioners built last year on the Frontiers of that province & made the Garrison consisting of 25 Men Prisoners. Thence they made a Descent into this Province & cut off some People that lived more than 12 Miles on this Side our Fort. This Accident has so terrified our Back Inhabitants that Hundreds of them have abandoned their plantations & one of our most flourishing German Settlements is on the Brink of being entirely broke up, beside the two Companies belonging to the Fort I have ordered a Detachment of 200 from the Militia to assist & protect them but I am afraid that even this Reinforcement will not prevail on them to stand their Ground, so deep an Impression has the Cruelty of Indians made on their minds, & so little did these People deserve the favourable Opinion that we heretofore used to entertain of them. The Reduction of Fort Granville in Pensa as I have above related has been attended with dreadful Consequences in that Province, the Inhabitants of a whole County that bordered on Us are retired for the most part over Susquehanna, from easy Circumstances they are at once reduced to a State of Beggary & extreme Want & by their Flight our Northern Frontier is left exposed for 30 Miles in length. thus will these Colonies feel the Consequences of each others Remissness & vain will be the Resolution or Efforts of any one of them to put a Stop to the Devastations of these Barbarians; they must as they have been often told act in Conjunction & exert their united Strength to find the Enemy Employment in their own Country & to the Westward of these Colonies but alass a Defensive War is the utmost that any of our Assemblies will think of or provide for & such a War with Indians will inevitably prove our Ruin. Governor Denny upon his Arrival gave me some hopes that his Assembly would grant a very considerable Sum of Money & raise Men for a Western Expe-

Letter Bk. III dition but by what I can find his hopes are all frustrated & the Assembly after sitting a Fortnight continue averse to making any Provision for their own immediate Defence unless the Governor will accept a Bill imposing a Land Tax for 20 years which it seems is a Duration of 19 more than by His Instructions he is at liberty to agree to. You will easily judge from what has been mentioned that these two Colonies are in a deplorable Condition; Virginia is in much the same Circumstances & I find the Indians have lately begun with the Inhabitants of North Carolina, in all the Northern Colonies too they are at present in great Consternation on Account of the Loss of Oswego & our Naval Force on Ontario Lake I presume you will have a particular Account of that Affair long before this can reach you all we have heard as yet is that the Garrison consisting of about 1600 were made Prisoners by a Body of 6000 French & Indians that laid Siege to the Fort. This general Account is confirmed to me by Ld Loudoun who has thereupon writ to me for a Number of Recruits for the Royal American Regiment without the Assistance of which His Ldps seems to think himself unable to oppose such an Army as the French may possibly march into the Province of N York. On the Receipt of His Ldp's Letter I met the Assembly yesterday & have pressed them to comply with His Lordship's Requisition by appropriating to that use part of the Money lately granted for His Majesty's Service. I cannot judge as yet how far I shall succeed with them tho I find they are in general very averse to sending Men to the Northward & draining as they say their own Country, but as the Officers are now at Liberty to enlist Servants I think the most prudent thing they can do will be to make an Act for raising at once 500 or 600 Men for His Ldp by drafting the Militia. As soon as the Assembly shall come to some Resolution on this Matter, I propose to push once more for a strict Militia Law & to persuade them if possible to vote an Additional Number of Troops for the Defence of this Province, If I succeed our Frontiers will I hope be pretty well secured for the present & we shall have a Number of diciplined Men ready to take the Field in the Spring if an Expedition should be undertaken to the Westward. As I do not press our Assembly to raise Money but only to appropriate a Fund that already exists I hope We shall proceed with harmony at this time for unless they should think proper to blame me for constructing the Fort of Stone & Earth instead of Wood & thereby encreasing the Expence of it I do not see how they can express any Dissatisfaction at my Proceedings since last Session. I shall next week by M^{r} Wayne's Vessel acquaint you with my Success & with any thing of Consequence that might happen before that time—

[St. Clair to Sharpe.] Original.

Albany Head Quarters Sept^{r} 22^{d} 1756

D^{r} Sir

It gave me the greatest concern some time ago to hear of your sickness, but as bad news travells apace in this Country, my fears about you are seased not having heard any thing about you for some time past. I am sorry you have had so good an Excuse for not answering my last letter, had you not been employ'd in securing your frontiers and out of order, I woud say that you did not think it worth while to answer a Letter wrote in the humour I was in when I wrote it, all the apology I can make is that same stuck by me till Lord Loudouns arrival. What has happend to us by M^{r} Shirleys Conduct is enough to alter the nature of Man, nor do I find he has altered his way of thinking since he has been superceeded. I am far from thinking my self out of harms way this Campaign, if the french do but forbear their intended Stroke eight Days longer I think we may give them a warm reception, Our Dispositions are good and if they do beat us they must be very strong and the Stroke will be hard. The french bear hard on our advanced post of fort W^{m} Henry, a Comp^{y} of Provincials on the Scout had a brush the other day. I am going up that way so being on the Spot I shall be the better able to give you an account of things In case I shou'd stay at Albany this Winter I must think of laying in some stock of Wines, I am very well supply'd with Claret and Madiera but no Port or any other Red Wine: I shall therefore be obliged to you if you can get me a few Hampers of Red Wine (Claret excepted) to send it to me. I have heard nothing as yet of the Mozell Wine, but I suppose as it is a Wine for Summer that it will arrive at York by Winter. I have settled a Correspondence by the help of my German friends for good Renish & Burgundy, I shall willingly divide with you.

I think we must see one another about Christmas, therefore shoud be glad you wou'd buy me a very good Horse, as you have helped me out on the like occasion I need not tell you what kind of one I want. If I come to Annapolis I shall expect such a Horse, and if you come to this place New York I beg you will bring him with you. I beg you will make my compliments to M^{r} Coutts if it be in your power to do any thing for him I shou'd be glad of it, if not I must contrive to get him something in this place. You see I do not write to you as Gov^{r} of Maryland but on all occasions I shall be glad to show my respect to you as such, and as a friend to convince you of the regard & Esteem with which I am Dear Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
John S^{t} Clair

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

26th Septr 1756.

Sr

I now do myself the Honour to make my Acknowledgments for your Lettrs dated the 28th of Augst & the 2d Inst. I am glad to find Your Accounts from Major Lewis are so favourable & that by the measures you have prudently taken the Defection of the Cherokees has been prevented. Our Interest with the Northern Indians is said to decline fast & I am apt to beleive the Report is not without foundation. The Gazettes bring you as particular Accounts as I have received of the Surrendry of Oswego, neither have I had any other Advice of the motions of the Provincial Troops or the four Regiments under the Command of Lord Loudoun than what the publick papers bring us. We are told that Colo Clapham is marched from Shamokin for Venango with a Body of the Pensa Rangers, tis reported that a Set of People there are much offended at these proceedings of their Military Officers who were only raised to act on the defensive & to protect the Inhabitants of that Province. Our People also seem to be I think for Pacific Measures for they have been now met a Fortnight & have hitherto declined appropriating any of the Money that has been already granted for His Majesty's Service. I am told they will proceed to Business very shortly & that they intend to begin by calling me to Account for directing a Fort to be made with Stone & Earth instead of Stoccadoes & for intimating to them that they ought to use Dispatch if they would discover any Zeal for His Majesty's Service. In Consequence of the Earl of Loudoun's Lettr I have enlisted more than 50 Men for him, I hope to make them a hundred let the Result of our Assembly's Meeting be what it will but I think such a number cannot be raised in this Province for less than £300 Stg & £3 Stg a man is much more than the Officers of the Royal American Regiment find themselves at Liberty to give. We have at this time 200 Militia on our Western Frontiers beside the Troops that are employed in building Fort Frederick I would gladly comply with your Request by ordering a Detachment to Fort Cumberland but really 'tis not in my power, I have desired the Assembly to make an Augmentation to our Forces but dare not entertain very sanguine hopes of Success. I have also recommended to their Consideration the Affair of a Light House but cannot learn how my Message was received I am much obliged by Yr kindness in sending Copies of the Instructions sent you from the Lds of the Admiralty & am &c.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 229

3d Octr 1756.

My Ld

When I last did myself the honour to write to your Ldp I acquainted you with my having issued a Proclamation for the Assembly to meet the Day after; I now send your Ldp a Copy of my Speech at the Opening of the Session with the Addresses of both Houses in Answer thereto. Your Ldp will observe that I recommended nothing more to the Assembly than what I was obliged to do by the Letters that I had received from the Secretary of State & Lord Loudoun lest they should by a Multiplicity of Business be diverted from that on which they were more especially convened. Notwithstanding this precaution the Managers contrived to hinder the House from doing any thing for a Fortnight & then prevailed on them to desire me to communicate to them whatever Matters I intended to lay before them this Session. This was done that if possible an Occasion might be thence taken to throw something into the p. 230
Bill that should overset it, but I am in hopes that their Views have been in a great measure disappointed as I learn a Bill is brought into the House for appropriating £5000 towards raising Men in this Province for the Royal American Regiment & another part of the £40000 to compleat Fort Frederick & raise another Company of a hundred Men for the Protection of our Frontiers. A Bill is also brought into the House for the better Regulation of the Militia but as there has not as yet been any Debate thereon I cannot say what will be the Fate of it tho I doubt the People in general are very averse to any such Law. As Lord Loudoun on receiving Intelligence of the Loss of Oswego writ in the most pressing & importunate manner for a number of Recruits & promised that if the Assembly would not be prevailed on to make provision for repaying the Bounty Money that I might advance he would engage to see me reimbursed I sent Instructions to the Colonels of Militia & engaged other Gentn to enlist Men in their respective Counties I have not yet received Returns from all of them but I conclude from what I have already sent hither that I shall by these means get a hundred men for His Ldp before the Assembly has made any provision for that Service. The Virginia Assembly did not meet till more than a Week after ours but I hear they have already made provision for raising 500 men & transporting them to the Royal American Regiment at New p. 231
York. I have not received any authentic & Circumstantial Account of the Siege & Surrendry of Oswego but herewith I transmit to yr Ldp in the Gazette such particulars as are come to us & which give us room to hope that the Indian Intelligence

Letter Bk. I. about the Garrison's being massacred was without Foundation. Your Ldp will also see by the Gazette that a Body of Men from Pens[a] have lately made an Expedition to the Westward of the Allegany Hills & destroyed an Indian Town situated on a Branch of the Ohio about 25 Miles above Fort Du Quesne. It is reported that three or four Indians of the Six Nations that happened to be at Phil[a] when Col[o] Armstrong's Letter was received & published expressed a good deal of Resentment & said that such hostile Attempts on their Cousins the Delawares should not be long unrevenged; We are also told that some of the pacific Gent[n] of Pens[a] seemed to be surprized at Armstrong's proceedings & observed that the Assembly did not grant Supplies for carrying on an offensive War but only for the Defence & Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants. however I hope this is the Sense of a very few & doubt not but the Conduct of Colo Armstrong will meet with general Approbation. Nothing I am convinced could have rendered us so contemptible to the Savages as our continuing so long on the Defensive & nothing but such Expeditions into their Country will give them a better Opinion of Us or do them any Injury. The Pens[a] Assembly has at length after some Altercation with their New Governor acted a more rational part than they have lately done tho I do
p. 232 not think their Resolutions even now manifest any great Zeal for His Majestys Service. I have not heard how the £30,000 that they have granted is appropriated but I suppose the greatest part of it is for the Support of Troops to garrison the Stoccado Forts & patroll on their own Frontiers, as more than the £60000 granted last year for that purpose is already expended. In my Lett[r] dated the 13[th] Sept[r] I advised Y[r] Ldp of the necessity I was under of ordering some Detachments of Militia to march to Conegochiegh & cover that Settlement, This has been attended with the Consequence that I hoped it would. The People who abandoned their Habitations are again returned & as no Indians have since appeared there I hope they will not lose the Season of sowing their Grain which would be attended next year with the most fatal Consequences. Colonel Lloyd I hear will dispatch a Vessel for London the 20[th] of this Month, by her I shall address myself again to Your Ldp & beg leave to assure your Ldp that I am

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

5[th] of Oct[r] 1756 transmitted by Capt.

S[r]

In my Lett[r] dated the 14[th] Sept[r] I informed you that the Assembly was to meet that afternoon in Consequence of a Lett[r] that the Earl of Loudoun had writ to me upon receiving an Acco[t] of

the Loss of Oswego. I now transmit you a Copy of my Speech Letter Bk. I.
at the Opening of the Session together with the answers of both
Houses thereto. from that of the Lower a Stranger would be
apt to conclude that part of the £40,000 was immediately
appropriated to the uses I desired & that e'er this an End has
been put to the Session. This however is by no means the
Case for we are but just now proceeding to Business a whole p. 233
Fortnight having elapsed before the Gent^{n} of the Lower House
were convinced that Oswego was certainly lost & that Lord
Loudoun was in earnest when he made Application to us for
a Number of Recruits for the Royal American Regiment.
They have at length framed a Bill for appropriating £5000
agreeable to His Ldp's Requisition & another Sum towards
compleating Fort Frederick & raising a third Company of 100
Men for the better protection of our Frontier Inhabitants.
The Bill is to have a second Reading this Day & will I sup-
pose to morrow or next Day be sent to the Upper House for
their Concurrence. A Bill is also brought in for better regu-
lating the Militia but as it has not yet been the Subject of
Debate I cannot say what will be its Fate. I am sure the Situ-
ation of Affairs in America & the Circumstances of this & the
neighbouring Provinces in particular makes a good Militia
Law exceedingly expedient but the people in general are very
averse to every Law of that Sort & their Sense I doubt will
determine their Representatives. M^{r} Hammond who is a
Leading Man in the House says he thinks it would become
them to recommend it to the people to provide themselves
with Arms & to learn to use them but that every Step farther
than that would abridge the Liberty to which as Englishmen
they have an inviolable Right. As Lord Loudoun was very
importunate for a Number of Men & was pleased to assure me
in his Letter that whatever Expence I should be at in raising
them He would see me reimbursed I writ to the Colonels of
Militia & some other Gent^{n} in different Parts of the Province
& desired them to exert themselves on such an Occasion,
I have not yet received Returns from all of them but I have
good reason to think that I shall by this Step get about 100 p. 234
Voluntiers for His Ldp while our Assembly has been consid-
ering as they say in what manner they can best promote the
Recruiting Service. As they have in some Sort approved of
the measures I have taken in Compliance with His Ldp's
Request I hope they will not refuse to repay me the Bounty
Money I have advanced, tho really after what they have already
done I could not be much surprized at such a Resolution.
We are told that the Virginians have voted 500 Men for the
Royal Americans to be raised immediately, but they have in
vain been endeavouring these two years to compleat the Com-
panies that were voted for the immediate Protection of their

Letter Bk. I. own Frontiers. In the inclosed Gazette You will see all the News that we have lately received from the Northward, a circumstantial or particular Account of the Siege & Surrendry of Oswego has not yet been sent us, You see there is good reason to hope that what the Indians reported concerning the Garrison's being put to the Sword was without Foundation. We are also in hopes that the Success of Col° Armstrong will have a good Effect by inclining the Indians to entertain a more favourable Opinion of our Courage than they have lately had reason to do & by inciting some more of our People to undertake such sort of Expeditions. The Pensilvanians have at length passed an Act for granting £30,000 for the King's Use but I observe they have not been easily persuaded to do so, I have not heard how the Money is appropriated tho at the rate they have lately expended it will go but a little way towards securing their own Frontiers. The people who dwelt at Conegochiegh are again for the most part returned to their plantations under Cover of the Militia that I ordered to their Relief but as they appear to be a Dastardly People I am afraid the first Indian that shall be discovered on the Frontiers will throw them again into Confusion & entirely break up that Settlement. We have just received Advice that a Body of 250 French & Indians have invested Fort Dinwiddie a Stoccade in Augusta County in Virg[a] Col° Washington is marched from Winchester to its Releif, but I presume at his Arrival he will find the place reduced or the Enemy gone off, inclosed in a Duplicate of my last Lett[r] I remitted You Bills of Exchange for £110 a Second thereof I send you in this together with a Bill for £28 which is in full of Parkers renewed & the Ballance due from &c.

Original. [Morris to Sharpe.]

Philad[a] Octo[r] 8[th] 1756.

Dear Sir

Your favour I had the honor to recieve a few days after I gave the government into M[r] Dennys hands, to whom I wish a more agreable, and advantagious administration, than fell to my share, and that he may be able to prevail on the Assembly, to think the safety of the Province a matter of more importance than the gratification of their own ill grounded resentment, against a family that has done every thing they could to serve a people and make them happy; what will be the Issue of the sessions that begins the 14[th] Inst I do not know, but from the knowledge I have of the tempers of the men chosen at the last gen[l] Election, I think it is not possible they should act a reasonable part.—

Our last accounts from Albany mention my Lord Loudouns being within three mile of a french army, with Eleven thousand men, and they are said to be thirteen thousand strong, so that an Action is Expected, what foundation there is for these accounts, and how they come attested I dont learn, whence I conclude that what is said of the french numbers at least, may be only conjecture, but be that as it may, I do not wish to hear of an Action, in which we can gain nothing, but may Loose a great deal; all designs of acting offencifly seem to be laid asside for this year, and I do not know that we shall have as many men next summer as we had this, unless the New England governments are better pleased, than I imagine they have had any reason of late to be.

The Loss of Oswego I esteem a very fatal blow to the Brittish Interest on this continent, and must be owing to the alterations made in the Plan of operations settled at New York, which with great submission to better Judgments, I think could not be changed but for the worse. I find the N York scheme is to lay the blame of that affair upon Gen^{l} Shirley, but how Just their censures are the following facts will shew.

Gen^{l} Webb arrived at N York	June 7th
Gen^{l} Abercrombie arrived	D^{o} 15.
both arrived at Albany	D^{o} 25.

On the 26th of June Gen^{l} Shirley acquainted Gen^{l} Abercrombie of the state of Oswego and advised the sending two Batalions there.

Bradstreat returnd to Albany on the 12th of July having thrown into Oswego six months Provisions for five thousand men, and a great quantity of Amunition and naval stores, and defeated a party of French and Indians on his way back. And on the same 12th of July Informed Gen^{l} Abercrombie that he had intelligence from his Prisoners, that a french army was in motion and designd to attack Oswego; whereupon the 44 Regiment was orderd to hold itself in readyness to march to Oswego.

Lord Loudoun arrived at New York,	July 23^{d}—
D^{o} arrived at Albany	D^{o} 29—

On the 12th of Augst the 44 Regiment moved towards Burnets field, with a number of Battoe men who had remaind Idle at Schenectaday from the 11th of July. and on the 19th of Augst Gen^{l} Webb then at Burnets field, recieved the news of Oswegoo being taken, upon which he marched to the Oneida carrying place and orderd the wood creek to be filld with trees, which was accordingly very effectually stopd.

I have mentiond these facts that you might be satisfied of the truth with respect to that important Loss.

A very worthy Friend of mine has requested me to recomend one James M^c^Loghlin to you, who intends to apply for the Sherriffs office of Kent County, and it is with some difficulty I have prevaild with myself to mention him, But as I do not know the man, I can only desire you will permit him to lay his pretentions before you, and if he has sufficient merit I am sure he will stand in need of no other recomendation to you.

I wish you much health and success in every affair you undertake and am with great truth D^r^ Sir

Your Most obed^t^
Humble serv^t^
Rob^t^ H. Morris

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

10^th^ of Oct^r^ 1756

S^r^

Inclosed you receive a Lett^r^ that should have been sent a Fortnight ago but the Post was just gone for Virg^a^ before it was delivered at the Office I am now to inform you that our Assembly & I took Leave of each other yesterday after having made an Act for appropriating £3000 to raise 300 Men for the Royal American Regiment; £2000 to purchase & transport a quantity of Wheat to New York for the Use of the Army & a Sum of Money for finishing Fort Frederick, & raising another Company of 100 Men for the better Protection of our Frontier Inhabitants. I would have persuaded them to send a greater number of Recruits instead of Wheat to His Ldp but as it was determined by a Majority that the Latter can be more easily spared this year than the other no Regard was paid to my Representations, & as little to that Lett^r^ of the Secretary of State which recommends it to us to promote the Recruiting Service by making the Masters of such Servants as may enlist some Satisfaction. I am glad to hear of Success with Your Assembly We were advised of the Dispatch you made when we had been sitting three weeks & I am inclined to think the Intelligence prevented our sitting twice as long on less Business than you finished in five Days. S^r^ Iohn S^t^ Clair was well at Albany the 22^d^ of Sept^r^ but about to proceed to Lake George with what Design he does not say, neither can I learn from any one else what Motions are making in that part of the Continent. I do not find that any Indians have lately appeared on the Frontiers of Pensilvania or this Province which has encouraged the people of Conegochiegh to return again to their respective Habitations. We are told by a Person from Phil^a^ that a Vessel just arrived there from Europe brings an

Acco[t] of Pragues being invested by the King of Prussia & that Admiral Bing is lodged in the Tower. As Governor Denny mentions nothing of it in a Lett[r] that he sent me by this Person I know not what Credit is to be given to the Report. Our Gent[n] were pleased to tell me in Answer to what I said to them in favour of a Light House that it was a new matter to them & therefore not hastily to be determined on & I beleive they never will make any such Act as you desire & as I recommended to them. Letter Bk. III

I am &c.

[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

10[th] of Oct[r] 1756.

D[r] B[r]

In my last dated the 13[th] Sept[r] I informed you that in Consequence of a Lett[r] from the Earl of Loudoun I had issued a proclamation for the Assembly to meet the next Day, being unwilling to give them any room to begin Disputes or protract the Session I only recommended it to them in a short & simple Speech to appropriate part of the money that was already raised to such uses as the Secretary of State & Lord Loudoun required; had they been disposed to promote His Majesty's Service they may have framed a Bill for that purpose in a Day or two at farthest, but notwithstanding the Alarming Situation of Affairs at that time & the Importunity of His Ldp for Men, our cool & circumspect Gent[n] sat a fortnight persuading each other that Oswego could not have fallen into the hands of the French as His Ldp had represented & consequently that there was not an absolute necessity for their making such provision as I had desired, however as the Gazette Writers have since convinced them that their wise Conjectures were really without any Foundation, they have at length proceeded to frame a Bill for appropriating £3000 to raise 300 Men for the Royal Americans, £2000 to purchase & transport provision to the Army & another Sum for finishing Fort Frederick & Augmenting the Garrison with 100 Men. The Bill received my Assent yesterday & I have rid myself of a Parcel of wretches whose Company I begin sincerely to detest. The Virg[a] Assembly met a few Days after ours & having granted £8000 for raising 500 Men for the Royal American Regiment & a pretty large Sum for the Support & Encouragement of a Body of Cherokees that they expect will join them broke up within a week while we have to our Reproach sat five times as long doing less Business. The Pensilvanians have also I find with much Difficulty been prevailed on to wave their Disputes & to grant

Letter Bk. III £30000 for the King's Use that is for the better Defence of their own Frontiers for as they had brought themselves £10000 in Debt, the Remainder will at the Rate they have expended this last year be sunk on their Frontiers in three or four Months, The Men that were raised for the Defence of that Province have lately made an Attempt on & reduced an Indian Town to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, & it is said that another Body is marched agst an Indian Town on Beef River, but as no notice is taken of it in the Pens^{a} Paper I am afraid the Report is without Foundation. I do not find that any circumstantial Acco^{t} of the Siege or Surrendry of Oswego has been yet received, but it seems the Intelligence concerning the Garrison's being put to the Sword is without foundation tho Gov^{r} Dinwiddie has thought proper to mention it in his Speech to the Virg^{a} Assembly as an indisputable fact. In a Lett^{r} that I have lately received from S^{r} Iohn S^{t} Clair he tells me that unless the Enemy are very strong indeed he apprehends they cannot attempt any thing more this Season to the Northward with probability of Success but whether Lord Loudoun & all the Regular & Provincial Troops are to remain on the Defensive only he does not say tho I am apt to think that will be the Case as we hear nothing of their being in Motion. We have not for a Month or Six Weeks been at all disturbed by the Heathen (as our people call them) but they have paid the Virginians another Visit & invested Fort Dinwiddie a Stoccade in Augusta County, Col^{o} Washington is marched from Winchester to it's Releif but I doubt not the Enemy will have reduced the place or given over their Enterprize long before he can come up with them. So much for general news. I am now to communicate to you something that more particularly relates to myself & to desire Your good Offices in case a Set of People whom I have some reason to suspect should think proper to become my Enemies; You may remember that I told you in a former Letter that the Roman Catholicks were much dissatisfied at my having assented to the Act for granting a Supply of £40000 for His Majesty's Service because it imposes a double Tax on the Lands of all Persons of that persuasion, They are I find determined to apply to His Ldp or the King in Council for Releif, & to remonstrate by what I can find agst my Conduct in assenting to the Bill, in an Extract of a Lett^{r} to M^{r} Calvert herewith sent you will see what induced me to do so & I cannot but think such Reasons will justify my Conduct. They have given out that one of my Brothers has engaged to espouse their Cause & to get the Act dissented to, but as you have never given me a Hint to that purport I am inclined to think they speak in such a manner with a Design to render me more suspected of favouring them than I am already: If they had

Gratitude I think they would consider how I have contended Letter Bk. III
with the Assembly in their behalf, I could have purchased many Friends by giving them up when by acting a moderate part I have given great Offence to their inveterate Enemies. Were they well advised I think they would not make such a Stir on this Occasion, for if they do not succeed in their Applications, the Assembly will be encouraged to make more severe Laws agst them, & if they should obtain Relief some of the weaker Bretheren will very probably become so insolent as to lay the Gov^{t} under a necessity of taking notice of them & of having them punished agreeable to the Tenor of the penal Statutes which by an Act of Assembly made long since are declared to extend to this province. Their priests hold large Tracts of Land among us & their Children are frequently sent to S^{t} Omers for Education, these are in my Opinion great Indulgencies & such as are allowed in none of the Colonies but Maryland & Pensilvania. I believe about $\frac{1}{12}$ part of our Inhabitants are of that persuasion & many of them are persons of considerable Fortune. I know not what Interest they may have at home but if themselves are to be credited it is not inconsiderable I hope they will not think of addressing themselves to M^{r} Calvert, at least that he will not Countenance them, for I am persuaded nothing could be more impolitick than his taking such a Step & I am sorry to find that many of the people already mention on Occasions his having received a foreign Education. He might perhaps speek to you or B^{r} W^{m} on this Affair, if he should you will from this Hint be better able to advise him what measures to take for His Ldp's, his own, & the Ease & Satisfaction of

D B &c—

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

12th of Oct^{r} 1756.

My Lord

I am now to acquaint your Ldp with the Resolutions of the Assembly of this Province upon the Matters that in Obedience to your Ldp's Commands I recommended a Month ago to their Consideration & tho they have not granted such ample aids as I could wish yet I hope your Ldp will take in good part my Endeavours to obtain them. I have only succeeded so far as to get provision made for raising 300 Men for the Royal American Regiment with all possible Expedition including about 80 that I have got enlisted while the Assembly has been sitting. The pacific Disposition of the Natives & the great Success of the Recruiting Parties from Nova Scotia among our Servants forbid me to entertain very sanguine hopes that the Number voted will be easily raised but your Ldp may be

Letter Bk. III assured that I shall use all means in my power to collect them as soon as possible. Beside the Sum of £3000 granted for raising these Men £2000 is given to purchase & transport to N York a Quantity of Wheat for the use of the Troops under your Ldp's Command in case such a Supply should be acceptable. I would have persuaded the Assembly to grant both Sums for raising Levies or to have left it to your Ldp's Disposal but could not prevail & as I have found by Experience that they will not advance at all unless they are permitted to proceed in their own Way. I complied with their Humour & accepted a Bill for the purposes abovementioned in the form that twas offered. Nothing else worthy your Ldp's notice has lately occurred in this Province. No Indians have been down among the Inhabitants for a considerable time nor appeared on this Side Fort Frederick the Assembly have provided for the Support of 300 men to garrison that place & patroll on the Frontiers till next April & I have ordered out a Detachment of 100 Men from the Militia on the same Service &c.

Original. [Morris to Sharpe.]

Dear Sir

This will be deliverd to you by M^r^ Palmer who has lived some years in this town and acquired the esteem of the gentlemen and Ladys by a polite and sensible behavour. He is a great master of musick plays as well on the Harpsecord as any one I have heard, and if you have any turn that way will entertain you highly.

To-morrow I take my leave of the Province of Pensilvania and am going to a little farm I have near the sea coast of Jersey where I promise myself more pleasure or at least less trouble than I have had in my late Publick station.

Pownal is going home in the next Packet and I imagine has still a mind for a western government, but had rather hold one under the crown than under a Prop^r^ This is only my conjecture and tis not impossible but many difficulties may have been thrown in the way with a view to that end, as there are some connections between him and the leaders here. I dont learn who is to manage with the Gen^l^ till his return, but some body I am told is necessary. Gov^r^ Denny is Just returned from Carlisle, but I have not seen him to know whither any exped^n^ is agreed on against the Indians. my Judgment is that we should follow the blow given by Armstrong which would soon make them sick of the warr. I am D^r^ Sir

Your most faithfull and
obed Humble Serv^t^
Rob^t^ H. Morris

Philad Octo^r^ 14.
1756.

[Sharpe to Calvert.] Letter Bk. I. p. 235

16th of Octr 1756 transmitted by Capt Nowel.

Sr

I embrace this Opportunity of informing you that after passing an Act for His Majesty's Service &c and five others of little Consequence I last Saturday prorogued the Assembly to the last Day of next March. Inclosed I send you a Copy of the Act abovementioned. The Militia Bill I spoke of was (as I apprehended it would be) thrown out by a majority of the Lower House, as you will see by a Copy of their Journal which shall be sent by the next Ship that sails. As soon as an End was put to the Session I gave Commissions for raising a Company of 100 men for the better Defence of the Frontiers & as the person who is to have the Command of it is in some Esteem with the people of his County I hope it will be soon compleated. I hear from Fort Frederick that no Indian has p. 236 been discovered for a considerable time on or near our Borders & that the Frontier Inhabitants are at present quite easy, one third of the Garrison being always abroad & patroling between Potowmack & the Temporary Line. I have also appointed several Persons to recruit in different parts of the Province for the Royal Americans but I am afraid that notwithstanding so great a Bounty is offered & allowed by the Act it will be some time before We can collect our 300 Men for that Regiment. I have not received a Syllable of News from the Northward or the Southward since I last addressed Myself to His Ldp wherefore I shall not trouble him with a Letter at this time. As I could no longer entertain any hopes of Mr Tilghman's perfecting the Rent Rolls or paying due Obedience to His Ldp's Commands I offered Mr Wm Goldsborough the Office as I informed you I should but upon his declining it & assuring me that his ill State of Health would not suffer him to accept my Offer, I have appointed Mr Wm Thomas Mr Tilghman's Successor. He is a Gentn that has endeavoured to deserve well of the Govt The Son of Mr Thomas of the Council, & one that I persuade myself will not spare any pains to give His Ldp the Satisfaction that he expects & requires. In short I have consulted nothing in this Appointment but His Ldp's Interest & Honour & hope Mr Thomas will meet with His Ldp's & your Approbation. &c.

[Sharpe to Fox.] Letter Bk. III

28th Octr 1756.

Rt Honble

I have very lately had the Honour to receive His Majesty's Instructions dated at Kensington the 5th of Iuly together with

Letter Bk. III two Letters dated the 17th May & 18th Iune. I informed you in my Lettr of the 17th of Iuly that the Legislature of this Province made an Act near two years since for preventing the Exportation of Provisions & Military Stores from this Province to any Part of the French King's Dominions, that Act is now farther continued & I beleive it is effectual & answers the Ends for which it was made. I cannot on the strictest Enquiry find that the Inhabitants of this Province traded or corresponded with any of His Majesty's Enemies during the late war & I will use my utmost Endeavours & take effectual Care that no such Trade or Correspondence shall be carried on during this. Whatever French Prisoners shall be brought hither by Commanders of His Majesty's or other Ships shall be received & treated as such Persons have usually been. Since I did myself the honour to address you in Iuly I have convened our Assembly & pressed them to make such Provision as you was pleased to require in your Letters dated the 13th of March. They would not be prevailed on to make any Allowance to the Masters of such Servants as have or may engage in His Majestys Service, but I did after some time persuade them to appropriate a Sum of Money for raising 300 Recruits for the Royal American Regiment, & another Sum for supporting a third Company of 100 Men to garrison Fort Frederick & patroll on our Frontiers till next April. About one third of the Number to be raised at the Expence of this Province for the Royal Americans have been brought hither & deliver to such Officers of that Regiment as were appointed to receive them & I hope we shall be able to get the Rest within these two Months tho the Success of the Recruiting Parties that have been sent from Nova Scotia & other parts to this Province has much reduced the Number of those people that were disposed to enlist in His Majesty's Forces—Nothing worthy Notice has lately occurred in this Colony. the Indians have made no Incursions these 3 months & I hope our Troops are so disposed of as to render any further Attempts of His Majesty's Enemies on our Frontier Inhabitants unsuccessful—As a Sum of Money has been granted by our Assembly for purchasing a Quantity of Powder & Ball for the use of the Troops that have been or shall be raised for the immediate Defence of this Province & Application made to me (by the Merchr who is directed to procure it) for my Letter to shew that it is for the publick & no private use, I beg leave to acquaint you that I shall comply with the Merchant's Request & grant such a Lettr as he desires hoping that he will on presenting it obtain your Permission to export such Ammunition as he might be ordered to purchase & transport hither

Sr—

[Loudoun to Sharpe.] Original.

Fort Edward 30th October 1756.

Sir.

I have this minute, the favor of yours of the 12th with an Account of the bounty of your Government to us; for which I am extremely obliged to them, and singularly so to you; As you will see by my Letter, that the Troops will be in your Neighbourhood, I beg the Men may not be sent to New York, and I will order Officers to receive them.

I am, with great Truth and Esteem,
Sir
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Loudoun

The Honble Horatio Sharp Esqr

[Sharpe to Baltimore.] Letter Bk. I. p. 236

1st Novr 1756.

My Lord

As I had nothing worthy Notice at that time to communicate I did not address Myself to your Ldp when I last writ to Mr p. 237 Calvert. I am now to acquaint your Ldp that one Wm Iohnson was yesterday brought hither from Fort Frederick by Capt Dagworthy's Order who being examined in the presence of Mr & Colo Tasker yr Ldp's Chief Iudge Attorney Genl & myself said that he was about 23 years ago born at a place called Marcus Hook in the Province of Pensa where he was brought up in the Romish Faith & resided till within those few years when he removed to Baltimore County in this Province. Soon after the Encroachments of the French on His Majesty's Lands to the Westward became the Subject of Conversation among the People with whom he was conversant he entertained thoughts of going back to the French being moved thereto by the Discourses of the Roman Catholicks with whom he lived & one Priest Neal who frequently came among them. The Priest he says would very often take Occasion to enlarge on the Bravery Riches Happiness & Generosity of the French Nation & upon the News of Colo Washington's Defeat in particular insisted much on the Generosity of the French Commander for permitting the Colo to bring off his Wounded & said he was convinced that if the English had gained the Victory the French would not have been treated with such Mercy & Tenderness. On his asking the Priest whether the French would suffer any English person to come & reside

Letter Bk. I. among them the Priest assured him that if he had an Inclination to go to their Settlements he would be kindly received & well
p. 238 esteemed for such a Step. M^r^ Neal he says spoke to him once or twice afterwards in the same manner & when he found him resolved to undertake the Journey gave him a Packet of Letters to the French Commandant at Venango (whom he particularly & very justly described) wished him a good Iourney & gave him a Pistole towards bearing his Expences thro Pensilvania. This was done about two years ago after Col^o^ Washington had been defeated as I have already observed but before the Indians had taken up Arms or the French committed any Acts of Hostility on this Side the Allegany Mountains. Iohnson says he took Leave of his Maryland Acquaintance a few Days after he had received M^r^ Neals Lett^r^ travelled thro Pens^a^ unsuspected & in 24 Days reached Venango & presented His Letters to the One Eyed Captain who according to the Priests Information had the Chief Command at that Fort. From that time he has resided at the French Forts or in the Indian Towns & I beleive notwithstanding his Professions to the contrary has been frequently down with the Scalping Parties that have committed such Barbarities on our Frontier Inhabitants. He gives a particular account of most of the Incursions that have been made since the action of the Monongahela into these three Provinces & names many of the People that have been carried away either by the French or Indians from our Borders. In May last he says One Capt Stevil came up the Ohio from a
p. 239 large French Settlement near the Mouth of that River with a Company of 58 Men & brought with him as much Provision as would serve them 6 Months. These he says have done great Execution this Summer in Pensilv^a^ & Virg^a^ & 'twas this Capt Stevil that reduced Fort Granville; he is returned with his Company to spend the Winter at home but is expected at Fort Du Quesne early in the Spring with a much larger Body. The French told this Man they should be reinforced at the same time from the Northward & that they hoped to have 3000 French & Indians in May next to oppose the English if they should presume to undertake an Expedition to the Westward or if we should not raise an Army for that purpose to make an attempt on either Virg^a^ or this Province. The Indians that the French depend on for Assistance on such an Occasion & that have already declared in their favour are the Shawanese Delawares Picts Mingoes Tuckahoes & Tawaes, who will it is supposed be able to furnish about 1400 or 1500 fighting Men. The Garrison of Du Quesne does not he says at this time consist of more than 200 Men, nor that at Venango of more than 60, but a great Number of Indians are lodged in Barracks & Huts that have been built for them just beyond

Fort Du Quesne & a great many have Cabbins near & about Letter Bk. I.
Venango. There are fifteen Cannon eight of them 12 Lbrs
mounted at Du Quesne & Nine Cannon of a less Size are
mounted in Venango. This last place is not very defensible
at present but the Enemy have been busy all the Summer in p. 240
collecting Materials for building a very strong Fort there next
Spring. About 200 French Families & some Germans have
been setled between Venango & the Head of Buffeloe River to
raise Corn for the Garrisons, & a considerable Tract of Arable
Land is cleared also at a small Distance from Fort du Quesne
for the same purpose. The Description he gives of Fort Du
Quesne differs little from what we have heard from others but
I find they have built a Magazine just without the the Fort &
finished the Ditch & Covert Way that they were making on
this Side the Fort from One River to the other. This Iohnson
it seems was sent out the Beginning of last Month with a
Detachment of 160 French & Indians from Fort Du Quesne
to make a Descent on our Frontier Inhabitants, or if it should
be thought practicable to attempt the Reduction of Fort Cum-
berland; When the Detachment came near the Fort, Himself
& ten others were ordered to advance & make what Discoveries
they could & then to return to the Rest of the Detachment.
The fellow had accordingly concealed himself behind some
Logs that lay opposite to the Fort on the Bank of Wills Creek
& had remained there near three hours when he was discovered
by two Men & a Woman that came down from the Fort to the
Creek's Side. Apprehending the Soldiers would otherwise
fire at him he immediately crossed the Creek & pretended to
them that the Indians had contrary to his Inclination detained
him Prisoner & that he joyfully embraced that Opportunity of
escaping from them. He said not a Word of the Detachment p. 241
or Officer that had ordered him thither, & by what I can learn
was received & treated by Colo Steven who commands there
as other persons have been that have made their Escape at
times & retired thither for Protection. It happened that a
party of Men from Fort Frederick were at that time at Col°
Cresap's Plantation & as the Fellow seemed to be pretty well
acquainted with the late Transactions of the French in this part
of the Continent & their Strength On the Ohio Col° Steven
delivered him up to them with a Letter acquainting me with
his reasons for sending him hither. On his Way to Fort
Frederick he acknowledged to the Officer of the Party that he
had been sent to Fort Cumberland by the Enemy on the Errand
abovementioned & upon being strictly examined by Capt Dag-
worthy on his Arrival at our Fort he confessed the several
particulars that I have been relating & I do not perceive that
he has on his Examination before us varied in any one Circum-

Letter Bk. I. stance. We have thought proper to recommit him for another Examination next week & in the mean time the Attorney General who is gone to Baltimore Court will endeavour to learn where some Parties that the Prisoner has named & where the Priest particularly might be found for as he has no certain Abiding place, but resides sometimes in this Province & sometimes in Pens[a] it might not perhaps be easy to apprehend him. Since Iohnson has been remanded to Prison I have received
p. 242 another Lett[r] from Colo Steven dated at Fort Cumberland the 25[th] of Oct[r] wherein he tells me that on the 19[th] of that Month a Party from that Garrison discovered near the Fort & took Prisoner an Irish Papist that had deserted thence to the Enemy about 3 Weeks before & was now come back as a Guide to a party that was advancing towards our Settlements. The Enemy it seems were somewhat suspicious of him & as they came by Fort Cumberland insisted on his performing some notable Exploit in or about that place to convince them of his fidelity, & promised on his giving them that Satisfaction to confide in him as they had heretofore in Johnson who they said was a faithfull Fellow & one that had never disappointed nor deceived them. This Declaration the Deserter made just before he was hanged & Colo. Steven immediately advised me thereof, lest Johnson should impose on me as he had done on him & thereupon obtain his Liberty. I am in hopes that the Fate of these two Spies will save Fort Cumberland this Winter & deter others from approaching so near, but unless we pursue other Measures next year than we have lately in these Colonies I think we can expect nothing less than that the Enemy will make themselves Masters of that Place.

The last Advices that we received from the Northward were that the French Army at Crown Point is much superiour to that which Lord Loudoun commands on Lake George & that His Ldp was intrenching himself under the Fort that S[r] W[m] Iohnson built last Summer on the Brink of the Lake. His Lordship has we hear writ to Governor Denny & demanded of the Pens[a]
p. 243 Assembly a large Sum of Money for His Majesty's Service & also required them to build Barracks at Phil[a] for the Reception & Accommodation of a Battalion of the Royal American Regiment, It is said that the Assembly are by no means pleased with this manner of writing however they thought proper to comply with His Ldp's Requisition concerning the Barracks, what Resolution they are likely to come to on the other part of His Ldp's Letter we do not yet hear but I am afraid they will scarcely answer the Earl of Loudoun's Expectations. For my own Part I am convinced that neither the Assembly of that nor this Province have any thing so much at heart as the Increase of their own Power & Importance & as

they find nothing can be done without their Concurrence their Idea of their own Priveleges & Authority grows in Proportion & they seem very desirous to be convened as often as possible. The Truth of this Observation I think your Ldp will be sufficiently convinced of by the Proceedings of our Gent[n] last Session. The Journal herewith transmitted will shew that they were not alarmed or very much affected with the News of the Loss of Oswego; but it would be almost impossible to relate what Tricks were played by some to prevent their paying any Regard to Lord Loudoun's Requisition. The Members endeavoured for more than a fortnight to persuade each other that His Ldp's Information concerning the Fate of Oswego was without Foundation & consequently that there was not such an absolute Necessity for the Royal American Regiment being instantly compleated. Afterwards they would have inserted such a Clause in the Act for His Majestys Service concerning part of the Shilling a Hhd as must have inevitably damned the Bill in the Upper House, & they asked me as it were by several Addresses to recommend it to them to make some Provision for Arms & Ammunition that they may thence take Occasion to begin Disputes & postpone or neglect the Business on which they were especially convened & which I had in my Speech at the Opening of the Session earnestly recommended to their Consideration. Your Ldp will be informed by M[r] Calvert (to whom I have already transmitted a Copy of the Act) that Provision has been at length made for raising 300 Men in this Province for the Royal Americans & a Sum of Money also appropriated to finish Fort Frederick & support a third Company of 100 Men for the better Defence of our own Frontiers. As soon as the Bill was passed I granted Commissions for raising the New Company, & also appointed persons to recruit for the American Regiment, but I am sorry to find that none of them have hitherto been very successful. As M[r] Goldsborough declined acting as Keeper of the Eastern Shore Rent Roll on Acco[t] of his Health I have presumed to appoint M[r] W[m] Thomas to that Office in Confidence that he will not be wanting in his Endeavours to give your Ldp satisfaction, & Reason to approve of such my Appointment. I have also in Obedience to an Instruction that your Ldp was pleased to give me some time since in favour of the Rev[d] M[r] M[c]Pherson presented him on the Decease of M[r] Clagett to Will[m] & Mary Parish in Charles Co[ty] which Step I flatter myself your Ldp will be pleased to approve of. I am &c.

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Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Fox.]

2d Novr 1756.

Rt Honble

When I did myself the honour to write the 28th of Octr I acquainted you that in Consequence of an Act of Assembly passed for that & other purposes Orders were given to a Mercht in London to purchase & ship a quantity of Ammunition for the use of this Province, in Case therefore Mr In Buchanan our Mercht should be unable to ship Ammunition at this time on Accot of an Embargo I hope you will on his making application be pleased to grant him an Order for exporting 3000 lbs of Powder & an equal Quantity of Ball or Lead to & on Accot of this Province I am &c.

Letter Bk. I. p. 245

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

3d of Novr 1756. transmitted by Capt Noel.

Sr

In my Letter dated the 16th of Octr I acquainted you with the Issue of our last Session of Assembly & sent you therewith a Copy of the Act that was with a good deal of Difficulty at length obtained for His Majesty's Service. I now transmit Journals of the Assembly's Proceedings during that Session which I think will confirm what I observed in the first part of my Letter dated the 5th of Octr tho the Iournals do not discover what means were used & what Tricks played to postpone & obstruct Business. At one time twas given out & confidently asserted that Oswego was not lost, then instead of making immediate Provision for raising Men for the Royal American Regiment the State of the Province must be enquired into by Way of Amusement, afterwards I must be addressed as it were to recommend it to them to appropriate a Sum of Money for purchasing Arms & Ammunition that they may thence take Occasion to insert such Clauses in the Bill for His Majesty's Service as they knew would not be assented to, & to make extravagant Demands on His Ldp. Understanding with what Design such Addresses were presented I avoided every thing that could possibly afford them room for beginning a Dispute or for inserting their favourite Clause in the Bill that was framing. however you will see by their Resolves what were their Inclinations & how eagerly they embrace all Opportunities of saying & doing whatever they think will be disagreeable. I have long been persuaded that nothing to Effect will be ever done by these Colonies unless an Act of Parliament is made for obliging them to contribute their respective Quotas

& to exert their united Force in Defence of themselves & His Majesty's Dominions. The Assemblies of Pens[a] & this Province more particularly have I think sufficiently shewn that they have nothing so much at heart & desire nothing more than to encrease their own Power & render the other Branches of the Legislature odious or contemptible. They perceive that nothing can be now done without their Concurrence & thence conceive a great Opinion of their own Importance; The Oftener they are convened the less tractable they grow & become more extravagant in their Demands on the Gov[t] I hear Lord Loudoun has writ in a more peremptory manner than usual to Governor Denny demanding a large Sum of Money from that Province towards establishing a general Fund for His Majesty's Service & requiring them to build Barracks at Phil[a] for the Reception & Accommodation of a Battalion of the American Regiment Lest the Soldiers should be otherwise ordered to quarter themselves on the Inhabitants the Assembly will perhaps think proper to provide the Barracks but tis a doubt whether any Regard will be paid to the other part of His Ldp's Requisition. In the last Letters that have been sent us from the Northward we are told that the French Army at Crown Point consists of more than 13,000 when all the Troops that are under the Command of Lord Loudoun do not amount to 11,000. The people of the Northern Colonies are exceedingly anxious about the Event of this Campaign & most earnestly hope there will be no Action this year in that quarter. Our Accounts from the Southward are I think less favourable tho there is room to hope that the Report concerning the Cherokees having obliged Major Lewis to surrender to the French the Fort that He has at their own Request been building in the Cherokee Country is without foundation. Two Spies have been lately taken near Fort Cumberland. One of them being known to have deserted from the Virginia Regiment the Commanding Officer ordered to be hanged & the other has been sent hither for my Examination. I have acquainted His Ldp with what the Fellow confessed & acknowledged last Sunday before two of the Council, M[r] Brice, M[r] Bordley & myself & as I cannot give you a more particular Account in other words I shall give you the following Extract from my Letter to His Ldp. (the Extract here inserted begins "He was about 23 years ago born at a place called Marcus Hook," & ends with the words "Lest Iohnson should impose on me as he had on him & thereupon obtain his Liberty.") I am in hopes that the Fate of these two Spies will save Fort Cumberland this winter, tho unless these Colonies pursue other measures next year than they have lately I think we can expect nothing less than that the Enemy will next Spring make themselves Masters of that

Letter Bk. I.

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Letter Bk. I. place, & the other Petty Forts that have been built on the Frontiers of these Provinces. I forgot to tell you in my last Lett. that the Death of M^r^ Clagett had given me an Opportunity of presenting M^r^ M^c^Pherson to W^m^ & Mary Parish in Charles Co^ty^, As His Ldp was some time ago pleased to send me an Instruction to provide for that Gent^n^ I hope this Step of mine is agreeable to His Ldp's Intention & that it will also meet with your Approbation I am:

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Novem^r^ 4^th^ 1756—

S^r^

Col^o^ Lee having just acquainted me with his Intention to pay you a Visit very shortly I trouble him with this to inform you that Col^o^ Steven has lately sent hither a Person from Fort Cumberland who was sent thither as a Spy by an Officer of a Detachment of 160 French & Indians who were ordered from Fort Du Quesne to annoy the Frontier Inhabitants of one of these Provinces or to make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland if they should on Examination find the Reduction of that place practicable. I presume Col^o^ Steven has communicated to you what the Fellow said concerning the Enemy's Strength behind us at present & of their Intention to assemble & march a considerable Body of Troops into one of these Colonies next Spring. I cannot by this, but I will by the next Opportunity send you a Copy of the Prisoners Examination &c.

Original. [Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Nov^r^ 12^th^ 1756.

Sir

I receiv'd Your Letter by Col^o^ Lee. I shall be glad to hear the Information of the Person sent you by Col^o^ Stephens; tho' from all Accts they cannot spare 160 men from Fort Du Quesne, at same Time I fancy they may make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland; have therefore order'd Col^o^ Washington to call a Council of Officers, to consult if they think it may be properly defended, in case the Enemy shou'd attack it; if not, to send all the Ammunition &c. to Winchester, & abandon Fort Cumberland, destroying every Thing that may be of use to the Enemy—I have not yet receiv'd their Report.

I doubt not in the Summer they will march a Body of Troops against these Colonies, I therefore think it our Duty to be

prepar'd for them; and if the neighbouring Colonies will agree with proper Spirit to raise a Body of Men to attack the Enemy in their own Places of Resort, I think will be much more eligible than being on the Defensive in protecting our Frontiers. I have wrote to the other Governors to the same purport, & I shall be glad something essential was determin'd soon.

I am sorry Your Assembly wou'd not consent to a Light House at Cape Henry, which certainly wou'd have been of more Service to them than to this Colony, & the Expence to be paid by the shipping that receiv'd the Benefit, without any Charge on the Colonies.

I wish You Health & Happiness & am
most Sincerely
Your Excellency's
most obed^{t} hble Servant
Rob^{t} Dinwiddie

[Sharpe to Loudoun.] Letter Bk. III

15th Novem^{r} 1756—

My Lord

I am honoured with your Ldps two Letters dated the 28th & 30th of Oct^{r} & agreeable to your Ldp's pleasure have thereupon required the Inhabitants of Baltimore Town to provide Quarters for two Companies, & those of this place for One, Two more of the Companies may if your Ldp pleases be quartered at Chester Town, another at Charles Town & the Seventh at George-Town in Kent Co^{ty} Charles George & Chester Towns are situated on the East Side of Chesapeak Bay & within three or four Days March of Newcastle. Baltimore Town lies on this Side the Bay almost opposite to George Town & Vessels will run from one to the other in a few hours. The Company that shall be ordered to this Place might also be embarked at George Town & conveyed hither with a fair Wind in half a Day. There is a small Town or Village called Oxford pretty far down on the Eastern Side of the Bay & another on this Side called Marlbro 20 miles from Annapolis, The Independant Company might be quartered at either as your Ldp shall think proper. I have writ to the Magistrates & Gentlemen in the neighbourhood of these several Places & desired them to assist the Officers that shall come among them & to promote the Recruiting Service to the utmost of their power. I beg leave to observe to your Ldp that hitherto all the Troops that have marched thro or been quartered in this Province have agreeable to an Act of Assembly made some

Letter Bk. III time since paid after the Rate of one Shilling Currency or Seven pence farthing Sterl[g] a Day for the Diet & Lodging of each Man. If the Royal Americans are not enabled to clear their quarters in that manner I must if your Ldp pleases convene the Assembly & recommend it to them to make a new Regulation, but I doubt they will not be easily prevailed on to do so. Since I last addressed myself to your Ldp one Iohnson a Native of Pens[a] who has these two years resided among & associated with the French & their Indian Allies on the Ohio has been sent hither from Fort Cumberland. He imposed himself on the Commanding Officer at that place as one that had made his Escape from the Savages & fled thither for Protection but on his Examination here he has acknowledged that he came from Fort du Quesne with a Detachment of 160 French & Indians who were to make an Incursion into this Province or to attempt Fort Cumberland if the Reduction of that Place should appear practicable. The Prisoner was sent to reconnoitre & inform himself of the Strength of the Garrison & had concealed himself near it for that purpose, but apprehending from some Motion of the Sentry that he was discovered he dropt his Tomahawk went up to him & pretended to be a Fugitive as I have already mentioned. Inclosed your Ldp receives the Information that he gives concerning the French Settlements & their Strength to the westward; He confesses that he came five times so far as the Allegany Mountains with the Savages that have laid waste our Borders & I beleive nothwithstanding his Professions to the Contrary that he has been frequently lower down with them murdering the Inhabitants. I propose to order him back again to Fort Cumberland to be reexamined & rewarded according to His Deserts unless your Ldp shall be pleased to give Orders to the contrary—

I am &c—

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Denny.]

15[th] Novem[r] 1756.

S[r]

I now do myself the honour to acknowledge the Rec[t] of your Favour dated the 24[th] Sept[r] & to send you a Copy of the Information of one Iohnson who having near two years resided among the French & their Indian Allies was lately sent hither from Fort Cumberland. He acknowledges that he has several times accompanied the Indians from Fort Du Quesne to the Allegany Mountains & I am persuaded notwithstanding his professions to the contrary that he has been frequently further down with them murthering the Inhabitants. On His Exami-

nation here he has acknowledged that he came from Fort Du Quesne the Beginning of Oct[r] with a Detachment of 160 French & Indians who were to fall on our Frontier Settlements or to attack Fort Cumberland if the Reduction of that place should appear practicable. The prisoner was sent to reconnoitre & inform himself of the Strength of the Garrison & had concealed himself near it in pursuance of his Orders, but apprehending from some motion of the Sentry that he was discovered he dropt his Tomahawk & advancing towards him pretended to have made his Escape from a party of Indians that had detained him prisoner. I propose to send him back to the Commanding Officer at Fort Cumberland to be reexamined & rewarded according to his Deserts &c— Letter Bk. III

[Denny to Sharpe.] Original.

Philadelphia 24 Novem[r] 1756.

Sir

I have the favour of yours of the 15[th] Instant inclosing the Examination of William Johnson. I am apt to believe, whatever Character the Man may bear, that he has given in general a pretty true Account several of our Prisoners who have made their Escape from Kittannin and other places having on their Examination deposed to the like Effect with the most material parts of his Information. A thousand French and Indians knowing as they certainly do, the Weakness of this Province may over run it, nor do I see what can hinder their making themselves Masters of this City, the plunder of which will furnish all sorts of Supplies for their Soldiery and Indians, and enable the French to carry on the War with very little Expence.

On Friday I returned from Easton where I have tho' very unwillingly held some Conferrences with a number of Delaware Indians the same who came here in the Summer. Their Chief Teedyuscung seems hearty, and I believe has some influence over the Indians on the River Susquahannah who he may keep from doing mischief, and this seems to me to be the most he can do.

I have consented to a peace provided all the Colonies be equally included in it, all the Prisoners delivered up, and the same to be approved by Sir William Johnson and the Six nations at a General Council.

I am glad to hear by the last Letters that Lord Baltimore and the Proprietors are in a fair way to accommodate matters. I am

Sir

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

William Denny

Letter Bk. I. p. 247

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

30th of Novemr 1756 & transmitted by Capt Dyer—

Sir

In my Letter of the 3d Inst. I gave you some Account of one
p. 248 Iohnson who had been sent hither from Fort Cumberland & advised you of my Intention to have him formally examined before the Council, this was done the 13th of this Month as you will see by a Copy of the Council Minutes herewith sent & as the Fellow gave pretty much the same Account then that he had before done a Warrant was issued for apprehending & bringing before us on the 29th the several Persons whom he had on his Examination accused or named. They were yesterday brought hither & some of them examined but as they soon convinced us that the Prisoner had charged them wrongfully that he had assumed a feigned Name & was in fact a great Impostor we discharged them & several of them being extremely poor I ordered the Sheriff to defray their Expences & convey them back to their respective homes: As I inclose you the minutes of this Council also I need not tell you that the Informant did not when he was called into the Room where they were so much as know the Priest or Mr Wheeler & that he thereupon made a Recantation giving us at the same time the Reasons that induced him to frame & insist on such a Story as he had before told & sworn to the truth of. I shall forthwith send for that Plummer & the Soldiers that came with him from Fort Cumberland & I doubt not but it will on Enquiry be found that the Fellow has given a true account of their Behaviour towards him. I have already advised the Earl of Loudoun of my having such a Person in Custody & as I presume enough Witnesses
p. 249 will be found in the Company that was Capt Clark's to convict him of Desertion he will probably be punished with Death by the Sentence of a Court Martial. We are told that two Priests & a Lay Roman Catholick are imprisoned in Phila for seditious Practices but what they are particularly accused of we do not yet learn, The Affair however is much talked of & as Every one is at Liberty to make Conjectures many People among us are persuaded that some horrid Plot will be shortly discovered. Governor Denny is just returned from the Frontiers of that Province whither he had been to hold a Treaty with some of the Delaware Indians who resided on the Susquehanna River but have for some time past been at War with us. They would by what I can find have made a seperate Peace with the Pensilvanians but Governor Denny let them know that he was not at Liberty to hear such a Proposal, that if they were willing to make a League with all the English & to break with the French Sr Wm Iohnson would hold a Treaty with them for that purpose but that nothing could be done with them unless they

restored all the Prisoners that they have taken & carried from these Colonies. They seemed at length inclined to comply with these Requisitions but did not come to a final Resolution thereon & Gov^{r} Denny seems to think that the most they will be brought to is to remain neuter. With the Papers already mentioned you will also receive Col^{o} Tasker's Bond for the due Execution of his Office & regular Payment to you as his Superiour. Letter Bk. I. p. 250

Doctor Steuart has not been able to make up his Acco^{t} with the Sheriffs who collect the Fees therefore your Request with respect to him cannot be yet complied with. Lord Loudoun I find has ordered most of the Troops into Winter Quarters. He intends to send Seven Companies of the Royal Americans to this Province but as his principal Design in so doing is to promote more effectually the Recruiting Service I apprehend the Companies at their Arrival will be very small. We have not yet been able to raise half the Number that the Assembly voted for that Regiment, & Capt Beall I am afraid will not be able to compleat his Company this winter such is the Scarcety of Men inclined to enter into the Service but I hope the Season will prevent the Enemy's making any Incursions or doing any more mischief on our Frontiers for these two or three months. with the greatest Reg^{d} I am y^{r} m^{t} obt Serv^{t}

[Calvert to Sharpe.] Original.

[First part missing. Indorsed Dec. 16, 1756.]

Suppose Speaking of M^{r} Stephen Boardly I never had any Personal Difference wth the Gentleman you are so kind as to recomend to my reguard, tho' it has happned when we were Members together of Assembly that some little misunderstanding were occasionedly produced by a Contrariety of Opinion in Pollitical Matters. and I dare Say is Easily Excused by one of his Good Sense from the Consideration of his having been formerly mistaken in his Opposition to those Measures w^{ch} I defended and Espetially Since his Mistake has been so Easily forgiven that an Acknowledgment of it has been rewarded by an Appointment to which a Series of Seven or Eight years. faithfull Service Could only have produced Very Slight and Questionable pretentions.

To all which, I make no doubt to his Presentment; however, it is Certain there are many Propositions in Theory that differ when put into Practice for had the Charge of his Objections a been an unforgiven Rule against his father, he had never been Commissary General; besides Transgression is to be forgiven on Repentance. I knew not Ab^{t} Boardly's faults on his Promotion,

nor do I doubt the rectitude of y^r^ Iudgment in the Choice of him as a Servant under the Proprietor. I sh'd be Glad you wod Set me right w^th^ M^r^ Dulany whome I mean well to.

My Lord Apprehending the dangerous hazard of the Enemy thinks the present Time's not Suitable to Attempt a Survey of the Two Branches of Potowmack River in Order for a discovery of the true fountain Head of that river, the Given Limit between Maryland and Virginia.

To y^r^ Mention ab^t^ my altering my Order as Secretary in Behalf of M^r^ Walter Dulany for M^r^ Young how can I w^th^ Honour alter that I have Caused to be set down and Enter^d^ in my Office in the Province? with his Lordships Approbation and have Noted to M^r^ Dulany. It is a thing I Can by no means do to Barter my Honour by Change from one Person to another. It Gives me Concern your'e having Objection to M^r^ Young's being of the Council of State. I had not on my Lords directing him for that Station the Least Suspicion against him, nor do I know any real one now—as he was the Son of the Late M^r^ Young Iudge of the Land Office and Stronly recomended by Do^r^ Lee here, Eminent in the Civil Law and who is Treasurer to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and his being Marryed to my Neice who is First Cousen to my Lord, these Denominations fixed me for favour for him from his Lordship. I hope he is Honest he writes not Ignorantly. On my part, I know not how to reject his Lordship's kind Propositions Toward's him, you must Adjust things with my Lord and him, w^tever^ be the decision, it will Give me Sattisfaction. There being Two Vacancys at the Council his Promotion there will not dissapoint M^r^ Dulany of his seat at that Board.

I have Sent y^r^ Packet to M^r^ Hyde. I understand from M^r^ Tasker that the rents of M^r^ Hyde's Lands on the Western Shore has been paid by the farmers, but the Rents on the Eastern Shore are still standing out unpaid, Since the 29^th^ of Septem^r^ 1742, His Lordship hopes some Measure will be Taken to secure his dues there, I have wrote to M^r^ Lloyd Concerning the same.

I am not a Little surpriz'd at M^r^ Lloyd's Letter to you in Answer to y^rs^ to him from Fort Frederick wherein he says "he thinks you take upon you more than you ought in Giving such Peremptory Orders ab^t^ the Management of his Lordship's Private Affairs" and says "he is sure my Lord has no reason to Complain of his Behaviour or delay and declares I have not said one Syllable to him ab^t^ the Rent Roll" as proof against what he has ventur^d^ to Alledge, desire him to produce you my Letter of the 9^th^ of Last March, w^ch^ bears date w^th^ y^rs^ from me and was sent in y^r^ Packet. The Letter to him is so Copious that the Present Opportunity doth not afford time to

send you a Copy, however Briefly it Contains Numerous Observations and Explanations on the bad Plan w^th^ Errors from Search of the Rent Rolls for—Three Countys on the Western Shore rec^d^ from him and where in I say to him "I Can assure you the Governor has done you no wrong, therefore hope you'l not Conceive Iealosy against him who realy reguards you and I hope my Lord will Benefit from y^r^ Service and that you will Convince him thereof in the Execution of the Plans of his Affairs you have rec^d^ from me the Confusion of the Mannors and Rentals you say you'l rectifye.

My Lord doubts not y^r^ Service, but thinks y^r^ delay Tedious his Delay thereof was the Motive that made my Lord send you his Instructions for the Causing the return of his Rentals to him, therefore it is strange that he seems to think that you take upon you in Giving Peremptory Orders ab^t^ the Management of his Lordship's private Affairs—

Especially as you Can produce to him his Lordship's Instructions to warrant y^r^ so doing Occation^d^ by his Neglect; I do assure you I am Weary'd in Writing to him on that Subject, in which I Can have no relief therein, but what may result from y^r^ Care and Orders for redressing the Same.

The Expedition to Crown Point seems by your Account not Likely to be Attended w^th^ Success on our Side as the Provincial force refused Injunction to Act w^th^ our Regular Troops, I am much Concern^d^ to understand since you Left the Frontiers of an Accident w^ch^ has happne'd in Pensilvania to their several Forts on the Frontiers of that Province particularly to that Fort Call^d^ Granville built at Ianicata West of the Susquehannah River, it Lying near the Borders of Maryland. The Garisson was Trifling that of a Subaltern w^th^ Twenty five Men against a party of French and Indians perhaps Ten times their number, who found means to Set the Fort on fire it being I Suppose a Stockade fort of Wood that only serves for Bonfire to the french from Ignorance in the Pensilvanian Art of War; w^ch^ you have remedy'd, and well Considered in the Construction of Fort Frederick. Built of Stone the only durable Material to Protect and be of Service against Either a Military or Indian force, from the Latter Likely to be Secure from harm—tis a Melancholy Event your Intelligence of the Loss of Oswego Taken by the French and w^t^ the Earl of Loudon Observ's to you, without the Assistance of the Royal American Regiments of w^ch^ he is very Importunate about the Levies w^th^ you and the Other Provinces, if not soon Compleated 'tis Greatly to be Apprehended it will be Difficult to oppose the Enemy, sh^d^ they presume to advance into Pensilvania or the Province of New York. The unhappy Accident must have Struck all w^th^ Great Consternation, no Aid Sure will be wanting, as by it Consists the preservation of Each Particular person, than which it is

Impossible there Can be a Greater Tye than to Aid each other Against so ruinous an Enemy and Against whome Every pticular hath his defence by union to the Sovereign and themselves Equally—Lord Baltimore is much Concern'd at the unfortunate Issue of things, hope Affairs will amend, he thinks himself happy in his Province being under y^r^ Conduct and of w^ch^ he is sensible by Convincing proofs from your Vigilance & Circumspection to the Safety and well being of all he has trusted to y^r^ Care and of which, none Can have a Greater Sensibility of than him who is w^th^ real Esteem D^r^ Sir

Y^r^ Oblig^d^ hble Serv^t^
Cæcil^s^ Calvert.

Pos^t^ It is with real concern I write of the Death of your Brother John, who died last fall at Bristol; a great Loss to our Affairs. y^r^ last packet to him is deliver'd to y^r^ Brother William, as well as y^rs^ to him. In the Room of M^r^ Fox, W^m^ Pitt is appoint'd Sec^y^ of State; he is a Person Deem'd of peculiar discernment, great expectations are estimat'd from his Abbilities, therefore Note him for y^r^ particular acquittance to him on Affairs of the Province. Inclosed you have his Majesty's Speech & the Addresses of Both Houses of Parliam^t^ 24 Companies of Private men & one Regim^t^ from Ireland sail'd last month for America; and Transports are taking up for 10. or 11 Regm^ts^ more destin'd shortly thereof w^ch^ Regim^ts^ I inclosed you a List. By a List the Army here is 49749 I suppose Including officers. Inclosed are Gazettees & Historical Magazines & Evening Posts, as will Inform you of Publick affairs and of Change of Ministry. The Comōn's have voted 55000 Men for Sea Service includ^g^ Manner for 1757 & £1213746:3^s^ 9^d^ for paym^t^ of 49749 Men & for Guards & Garrisons in G. Britain & £423963:16^s^:10^d^ for the fforces & Garrisons in the Plantations & Gibralter—By this Packet you have his Lords^p^ Comiss^n^ to you as Vice Admiral of the Province—My Lord is ab^t^ setling with the Mess^rs^ Penns by Offer from himself, that if they agreed on paying their own Cost for Law Charges since the commencement of the suit, he wo^d^ ffree them of all Demands on his side for Cost, & was ready to finish affairs with them agreeable to his Father's Articles of agreement; I understand not from him, they have Accept'd his offer, & Orders given M^r^ Hemersley to proceed upon it. It Chagrin's me much, I know not the Advice nor motive th^t^ so precipitately hurry's him to so great wrong of himself. M^r^ Ridout's transmissions on the Law of 1704 & the 14^d^ p^r^ Ton are rec^d^ my Lord thanks him for the Papers and Assiduity therein—In Case M^r^ Lloyd Agent, shol^d^ Resign, wo^d^ it not be Adviseable to appoint an Agent & Receiver to each Shore, & of such Persons as reside on each Shore?—On closing this I

have y^rs of Oct^r 5^th with y^r Speech & the Addresses at opening the Session's of Assembly the 14^th of Sept^m last. His Lord^p directs me to say to you, that he thanks you for your speech & y^r earnest endeavours to promote his Majesty's service & in Defence not only of his Colony but also as to others, he observes, the Address's are respectful & hopes the proceed^gs of the Assembly will manifest their Duty to his Majesty's Service & that they'l give the Earl of Loudoun good proof thereof. I am very thankful to you for your goodness to me By Bills of Exch^a amt^g to £138—y^r Brother W^m is made keeper of the Records of the Council for Life £500 p^r Ann: y^r Nephew is Chosen Member at Collington in his father's stead. My Lord by his Instructions now sent to M^r Lloyd has Directed him to pay you the whole Income of Support of Goverm^t his Lord^ps reasons are contain'd in the Instruction, & in his Let^r I suppose Inclosed you; I hope the alteration will improve to y^r Advantage, 'tis y^r Due justly, I therefore wo^d Advise you to represent y^rself thereupon to him, you may depend on the sincerity of my friendship to you concerning.

The Land office in value is sunck greatly as to proffit to my Lord this year. M^r W. . . . . is provided for in the Army, I therefore think the lowe Circumstance of the Land office represent'd by you to his Lord^p wo^d gain his Consent to withdraw the Pension, or else tel them to write to my Lord themselves on that Acc^t in behalf of themselves; you'l excuse these notes to you proceed^g from one who wishes well to all things & Persons & of y^r having a happy agreement with all concern'd in the conduct of Affairs—

C. C.

[Baltimore to Sharpe.] Original.

London Dec^ber 21^st 1756.

Sir/

I have orderd M^r Loyd, to pay to you, the whole revenue for the support of government, agreable to the Law of 1704; and as he has signified to me, that the twelve pence per hogshead, may on account of the small exportation of Tobacco this year; fall short, of y^r usual income; I have directed him to make it good to you in case that should happen and on the contrary if there remains any overplus above £1000 p^r Ann. I expect y^r Acc^t to me thereof, by bills of Exchange; there being many charges, attending the government & the property of the Province, w^ch that ought in part to support. I am Sir/

with the greatest regard

Y^r most humble, & most obed. Servt.

Baltimore

P. S.

This affair being in particular betwixt you & myself I desire you will act accordingly.

Original. [Loudoun to Sharpe.]

New York Ianuary the 8th 1757—

Sir,

I am just setting out for Boston, where I have appointed a meeting, with the Governors of the Four New England Colonys, on the 13th in order to Concert with them, what assistance they will give, towards Carrying on the ensuing Campaign; as soon as that is over, I propose going to Philadelphia, in order to meet with you, and the Governors of the Southern Colonys, to concert a proper Plan, to be carryed on there, for their mutual Security and Defence, and such other things as may appear necessary, in the present Situation of Affairs.

I do propose this meeting, should be held at Philadelphia, on the 17th day of February next, where I shall be very happy to have the pleasure of meeting with you.—

As I hope, to have the pleasure of meeting you at Philadelphia, I shall postpone making any further answer to yours at present, than to beg you will keep that Spy you have got, till that time, and then have him carryed to Philadelphia, and I must likewise beg, that you will take the trouble to enquire about a Letter that fellow carryed from a Roman Catholic Priest in Maryland, to the Commanding Officer of one of the French Forts; and that if you find on Enquiry, that there is a proper foundation for it, that you would secure the Priest likewise.—

I am with great Respect
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Loudoun

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

8th of Jany 1757—

Sir

Mr Stevens (whose Instructions for making Pot Ash you some time ago sent me) calling on me here in his way to Williamsburg & desiring my Letter of Introduction, I comply with his Request so far as to make him known to you—I should agreeable to my promise have sent you a Copy of the Examination of that Iohnson als Marshall who was sent hither some time ago from Fort Cumberland had it not on farther Examination appeared that he had falsifyed in every Syllable he had spoken & that no Credit ought to be given to his Information. He at length proves to be a Deserter from the Independant Company that was commanded by Capt Clark & as I have

advised Capt Gates of his being apprehended & in Prison Letter Bk. III
I presume he will be sent for & punished agreeable to the
Sentence of a Court Martial.—

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

22d of Iany 1757.

Sir

As I find by a Letter which your Messenger has just brought me from the Earl of Loudoun that His Lordship expects to be favoured with your Company at Philadelphia the 17th of next Month I shall hope to have the pleasure of seeing you at Annapolis in your way thither & of waiting on you to Pensilvania, If you'll be pleased to let me know when you intend to cross Potowmack I will order a Vehicle to that River to wait your arrival; & if you approve thereof & the Wind should serve I can engage a good commodious Vessel to carry us hence to the Head of the Bay where a Carriage might attend us. Unless the News of our having the Small-Pox in this Place should deter them I expect our Assembly will meet here on Monday next to make some Provision (if my Recommendation shall have any weight with them) for supplying seven Companies of the Royal Americans who are ordered hither for the Winter with such Necessaries as they stand in need of & as Soldiers are usually supplied with in Winter-Quarters.

[Sharpe to Denny.]

28th Iany 1757.

Sir

Colo. Bird of Virginia calling on me in his way to Phila I embrace the Opportunity to pay my Respects to you which I hope to do in person about the 17th of next Month. Major Prevost having represented to me that many of the Soldiers who are ordered to this Province are in great want of such Necessaries as Troops ought to be furnished with in winter quarters I would have met our Assembly & recommended the Case of the poor Fellows to their Consideration but our having the Small Pox at this place has been made a Pretence for their not meeting me & I find myself under the disagreeable necessity of telling the Major that it is not in my power to comply with his Request or to contribute in any respect to the Relief of the Men under his Command. &c.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Maj. Alex^{r} Prevost.]

28th of Ian^{y} 1757.

Sir

I am extreemly sorry to find myself under the Necessity of informing you that since I have been favoured with your Letter by M^{r} Campbell all the hopes which I had before entertained of being able to serve the Troops under your Command are vanished & that it is not in my power to afford, or to procure them at present the least Relief. The Assembly should have met last Monday agreeable to my Summons but it seems the News of our having the Small-Pox deterred them nor would more than about fourteen of the Burgesses be prevailed on to come near the place. As we could do no Business whatever unless more than twice that Number were present I have after detaining them five Days complied with the Request of the few that did attend, by prorogueing the Assembly to the 10th of March by which time I hope we shall be free from the Distemper that is said to be so terrible to most of the Gent^{n} of whom our Assembly is composed. I should have received great pleasure from contributing to the Satisfaction of the Officers & Men under your Command & if the Representatives of the People had given me an opportunity I should have used my utmost Endeavours to procure the Soldiers such Necessaries & Conveniences as would render their quarters agreeable, but being disappointed in my Expectations as I have above related, I can do no more than assure you than when the Gentlemen of the Assembly shall give me an opportunity of addressing myself to them, I will recommend it to them in the most earnest manner to reimburse such Persons as have or may be put to any Expence in furnishing the Seven Companies under your Command with such Things as they stand in need of—

I am &c.

Letter Bk. I. p. 250

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

4th Feb^{y} 1757.

My Ld

Having just heard that a Ship is about to sail from a distant part of the Province I embrace the Opportunity to advise your Ldp of such Occurrences as have happened since the Departure of our last Ships afforded us opportunities of transmitting Letters to England. I have not heard of any Mischief being done on the Frontiers of these Colonies for a long time & I hope the Weather as well as our Ranging Parties will secure the Inhabitants for these two or three Months. In November

last a small Party of Catawba Indians who had come from Carolina to go out to War with some of the Virginians from Fort Cumberland proceeded towards Fort Du Quesne to annoy the Enemy in their own Country & if possible to get a Prisoner, a little below the French Fort they fell in with twelve French Indians who happened to be hunting in that part of the Country & killed four of them without suffering any Loss themselves; flushed with this Success they pushed on for the Fort with a Design as I have already observed to seize a Sentry from whom they may get Intelligence, but on the way they were surprized by a very large Party of the Enemy who had been alarmed as was supposed by the Eight that had escaped in the first Action, & two of the Catawbaes with four of the Virginians were killed on the Spot, the Rest of the Catawbaes being Seven in Number returned to Fort Cumberland but it is supposed that the Virginian who according to the Indians Account survived the Engagement has perished in the woods as he has not been since heard of. The Catawbaes are since gone home but it is said that they expressed themselves well satisfied with the Behaviour of the English that went out with them & have promised to return to Fort Cumberland again in the Spring. If the Vessels by which my former Letters were sent have not miscarried I hope your Ldp is e'er this informed that the Fellow who was taken in October last at Fort Cumberland & who thereupon accused several Roman Catholicks of Mal-Practices has at length proved a most infamous & wicked Impostor. I shall herewith send Copies of the Depositions & other Papers that I have before transmitted which I flatter myself will satisfy your Ldp that we used our utmost Endeavours to discover the Truth. Lord Loudoun has desired me to send the Villain to Phil[a] where I presume he will be tried for Desertion & punished accordingly. Towards the End of December His Ldp was pleased to order Seven Companies of the Royal Americans to this Province to take up their Winter Quarters at Charles Frederick George & Chester Towns in Cæcil & Kent Counties. His Ldp chose to have them all quartered on the Eastern Shore that they may be assembled at Phil[a] more readily when the Season shall permit His Ldp to open the Campaign. The Companies instead of 100 do not exceed 50 Men each but as the Towns are very small even that Number has been with great Difficulty supplied with such Necessaries and Conveniences as Soldiers expect to be furnished with in Winter Quarters I did at the Request of Major Prevost their Commanding Officer & with the Advice of your Ldp's Council issue a Proclamation for the Assembly to meet the 24[th] of last Month that I might recommend it to them to make some

Letter Bk. I. p. 251

p. 252

Letter Bk. I. Provision for furnishing the Soldiers with such Things as they stand in need of, but the Small Pox having broke out here & many of the Inhabitants being ill of that Distemper when the
p. 253 Assembly should have met The Burgesses for the most part declined giving their Attendance wherefore after proroguing the House from Day to Day till the 28th I then complied with the Request of the Speaker & those few who were in Town & by the Advice of your Ldp's Council farther prorogued them to the 10th of next Month when we may perhaps be pretty free from the Disease which is very much dreaded by the People in this Country (principally on Account of their Estates consisting in Slaves & Servants) & in the mean time the Gentn who live in & around the Towns wherein the Troops are quartered furnish them with Houses, Beds, Fire Wood &c by Subscription in hopes of being reimbursed by the Assembly, & the Soldiers are victualed by Persons whom the Victualing Contractors have engaged for that Purpose. A few Days ago I received a Letter from the Earl of Loudoun (who is now at Boston) wherein he is pleased to tell me that he expects to see Governor Dinwiddie & myself at Phila the 17th Inst. I know not what His Ldp proposes by desiring our Attendance but I presume Governor Dinwiddie will call on me some Day next week & I shall then proceed to obey His Ldp's Commands. It is more than probable that I shall be able from Phila to advise your Ldp of the Result of our Meeting, but if no Opportunity of Dispatching a Lettr thence should offer I shall transmit Letters by a Vessel of Colo Lloyds which with one from this Place is to sail the End of this Month or the Beginning of next, I shall charge the Captains of both these Vessels with some
p. 254 Maryland Partridges which I have kept by me since the Beginning of the Winter for such a favourable Opportunity of sending them to your Ldp & I hope I shall be able to transmit also by Colo Lloyds Vessel an accurate Map of Prince Georges Coty which has been actually surveyed agreeable to your Ldps Orders. I think I may promise too by the same Conveyance a true & perfect Rent Roll of Ann Arundel Coty which I have myself made out from the Records of the Land Office as your Ldp will see by the References to the said Books & the Certificate which I shall annex thereto, I think the Method I have taken will serve as a useful Example to the Rent Roll Keepers & will be of great Use both to the Agent & Receiver. It has employed me for the greatest part of Six Months. I have at length got & entered in a Book Platts of most of your Ldps Mannours in the different Parts of the Province but I find 'twill not be in my power with the utmost Diligence & Enquiry to send your Ldp such particular & satisfactory Drafts of them as might have been expected: this is owing to the Neglect of

those who have heretofore had the Care & Management of Letter Bk. I.
these Lands None of whom have recorded or kept Copies of the Leases that they granted, & as many Tenants have lost their Leases & know not how their Lands are situated or bounded. The Surveyors have scarcely any thing to direct them in running out the Tenements, which by the Platts that have been already returned me greatly interfere with & intersect each other.

Mr Willm Goldsborough whom your Lordship was at my p. 255
Instance pleased to honour with a Seat at the Council Board has been in a very bad State of Health for some time & by what I can learn is not likely to recover. In Case of His Decease your Ldp will be pleased to signify who is to succeed him as Iudge of the Admiralty Court, it is not a place of any Profit & of very little Trouble but if your Ldp pleases it would be much for the Ease of the People that may have Occasion to apply to him if the Judge be some Gentn that usually resides at Annapolis. I am &c—

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

4th of Febv 1757. transmitted by Capt Thompson

Sir

In my Letter dated the 30th of Novr I intimated to you that the Earl of Loudoun had advised me of his Intention to send Seven Companies of the Royal American Regiment to quarter themselves for the Winter in this Province; That the Men may be more easily disciplined during the winter & more readily assembled at Phila in the Spring His Lordship restrained their Quarters to Kent & Cæcil, but as there are but four small Towns or Villages & scarcely any Publick Houses in these Counties the Men were put to some Difficulties & wanted for a time many of the Necessaries & Conveniences that Soldiers expect to be supplied with when they come among the Inhabitants, Upon the Representation of Major p. 256
Prevost their Commanding Officer & by the Advice of His Lordship's Council I summoned the Assembly to meet the 24th of last Month but many of the Families in this Town being at that time ill of the Small Pox no more than 14 of the Burgesses would venture near us, wherefore after four Days I thought fit with the Advice of the Gentlemen of the Council to comply with the Request of the Speaker & those that did attend by proroguing them to the 10th of next Month when I hope we shall be pretty free from the Distemper abovementioned which on Account of their Families being very large is much dreaded by the People of this Country. The Soldiers

Letter Bk. I. are however at present pretty well accommodated, the Gentlemen who live in & around the places where they are quartered supplying them with such Necessaries as they stand in need of & require in hopes that they shall be reimbursed by the Legislature whenever the Assembly meets. The Companies should consist of 100 Men each but I beleive they fall short of Fifty & I am afraid they will encrease but very slowly unless Recruits are sent from home for we have not been yet able to raise more than half our three hundred for them tho we offer a Bounty of £10 a Man & the Recruits desert so fast that I am told there are no less than 28 of the Royal Americans at this
p. 257 time under Sentence of Death for that Crime. The Garrison of Fort Frederick instead of being 300 scarcely amounts to 250 Men & I am afraid the Officers will find it impossible to raise the Number allowed for the immediate Defence of this Province, however no Mischief has been done on our Frontiers for a considerable time & the People begin to think themselves well enough protected. Lord Loudoun is I beleive at this time in N England whither it is said he went to see what Assistance might be expected from that Quarter next Summer. In Compliance with His Ldp's Desire Governor Dinwiddie & Myself are to wait on him at Phila[a] the 17[th] Inst, but I doubt if His Ldp has entertained any great hopes of Assistance from these Colonies He will not be well satisfied with the Accounts that we shall be obliged to give him. Whatever be the Result of our Consultations I shall advise you thereof by the first Opportunity whether it be by a Ship from Phila[a] or one of Col[o] Lloyds that is to sail hence the End of this or the Beginning of the next Month. At that time I shall send some of the Partridges that I have been collecting for His Ldp & you may also expect the Rent Roll which I have been employed about ever since the Middle of the Summer together with a Map of Prince Georges Co[ty] made from an actual Survey & the Platts of His Ldp's Mannours finished in the best manner that I can
p. 258 get them & the usual Remittance to Your Self. As M[r] Young is on an Excursion to N York & Phil[a] I presume he will thence address himself to you & advise you of M[rs] Youngs Decease Miss Graham is left to the Care of her Unkle to whom I shall agreeable to His Ldp's Orders give the Sheveralty of Calvert County as soon as it becomes vacant. I am sorry to inform you that M[r] W[m] Goldsborough is in a very bad State of Health & that we shall very probably soon lose in him a sensible & worthy Member of His Lordship's Council; in case of his Death I must beg the favour of His Ldp to appoint some Gentl[n] of this place his Successor as Iudge of the Admiralty Court, it is a Place of very little profit & the Iudge is seldom applied to but whenever People have Business it is very inconvenient for them to attend any where but at this Place. I am

favoured with yours dated the 13th of Oct^r^ which advises me of His Ldp's Intention to assent to the £40,000 Bill that was passed in the Spring Session. I was in hopes I should have been able with this to transmit Copies of the Acts that were made at our last Session, but they are not yet out of the Press. As you tell me I may soon expect some Instructions from His Ldp & Letters from Yourself in Answer to the Packetts that I did myself the honour to transmit last Summer I shall not take any Step with respect to M^r^ Young or any other Gent^n^ till I have the Pleasure to receive His Ldp's Commands, but if His Ldp shall be pleased to confirm his Instruction in favour of M^r^ Young I shall then pay the most ready Obedience thereto— Letter Bk. I.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

Original.

London ffeb^ry^ 17th 1757.

Dear Sir/

I write from M^r^ Anderson Merch^t^ & as Cap^t^ Coolidge is upon his immediate departure I have only time to acquaint you that by this Conveyance you'l receive from Lord Baltimore 40 Barrells of Musket powder & 40 Barrells of Gunpowder for the use of the Province w^ch^ his Lord^p^ recomends to your Care I've sent you a Packet by Cap^t^ Johnson who sails under Convoy by this opportunity, by w^ch^ you'l receive his Lord^ps^ Instructions with a Let^r^ from me in relations to several Let^rs^ & Desires from you. I intend answ^g^ some let^rs^ rec^d^ since from you in March follow^g^ his Lord^p^ has no exception to y^r^ appointm^t^ of M^r^ W^m^ Thomas the Only Exceaption there can be is whether he lives on the Eastern Shore? as his Lord^ps^ Affairs are there in great Confusion therefore requiring a Person on the Spot more properly to settle them, I've wrote to M^r^ Lloyd to accept of the Change from the Western to the Eastern Shore w^ch^ I hope he will not refuse. Ad: Byng is Condemn'd to be shot ab^t^ 10000 Troops have rec^d^ their Orders for America und^r^ Convoy of 16 Line of Battle Ships

Y^rs^ most Sincerely

Cæcil^s^ Calvert

To His Excell^y^ Gov^r^ Sharpe.

[Pitt to Sharpe.]

Original.

Whitehall 19th Feb: 1757.

Sir

Having in my Letter of the 4th Ins^t^ informed you that it was the Kings intention to send a strong Squadron of Ships of War to North America, I am now to acquaint you, that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Rear Admiral Holburne

to command the said Squadron, & it is the King's pleasure, that, in Case any Naval Assistance shall be wanted for the protection of your Government, you should apply for the same to the said Rear Admiral, or to the Commander in Chief for the time being of His Majesty's Ships in those Seas, who will send you such Assistance, as he may be able to do, consistently with the Service, with which He is charged by His Majesty's Instructions, & you will regularly communicate to the said Commander all such Intelligence, as shall come to your Knowledge, concerning the Arrival of any Ships of War, or Vessels having warlike Stores on Board; & likewise all such Advices, as may concern their Motions & Destination, or may, in any manner, relate to that part of his Majestys Service, with which the Commanders of the King's Ships should be acquainted, & for the better Execution of the Orders sent you in this Letter, you will be diligent in employing proper persons & Vessels, not only to procure you the earliest Intelligence, but likewise to be dispatched from time to time, to the said Commander of His Majesty's Ships, with such Accounts, as you shall have Occasion to communicate to him.

It is also His Majesty's further pleasure, that you should use all legal Methods, whenever the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships shall apply to you, to raise such a Number of Seamen from time to time, as shall be wanted to recruit the Ships in North America.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
W. Pitt

Original.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

New York Febr 21st 1757

Sir

On my arival here last night I was Informed of your being come to Philadelphia and give you the trouble of this in order to make an appologe for not meeting you at the time I had appointed which as tis entirely owing to the business in New England having taken up more time than I had reason to expect I dare say you will easily Grant

As I have received letters from England which Requier Convoies it will take me a few dayes to despatch the Packet and the minute that is gone I will sett out to have the Pleasure of attending you at Philadelphia I ever am with Great Regards

Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Loudoun

To Governor Horatio Sharpe.

[Sharpe to Pitt.] Letter Bk. III

22d febv

Sir

Since I came to this Place in Obedience to a Letter which I was lately favoured with by the Earl of Loudoun I have had the pleasure to receive one from yourself dated the 27th of Decemr last wherein you were pleased to advise me of your being appointed One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State & to direct me for the future to address my Letters accordingly. I had the honour also to receive inclosed in the same Letter a Copy of His Majesty's most gracious Speech to his Parliament on the 2d of Decemr last & Copies of the Addresses which were presented to His Majesty in answer thereto for these I beg leave to make my Acknowledgments & at the same time to assure you that I shall at all times take Care to send you the earliest Advice of every thing worthy Notice that might occur in the Province with the Governt of which I have the honour to be entrusted. At present Things continue in Maryland as they have been for a considerable time, three Companies of 100 Men each being supported at the Expence of the Province to garrison a Fort which is building just beyond our Westernmost Settlements & to patroll on the Frontiers, our Back Inhabitants are well satisfied & think themselves pretty secure from Danger. No Mischief has been done among them for a long time neither has any Enemy been seen on our Frontiers since the Beginning of Winter, I am now waiting the Earl of Loudoun's Arrival at this Place where he is daily expected being already returned as we are informed from Boston to N York. with &c

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

Phila 23d of Febv 1757.

My Ld

It gives me great Pleasure to hear & to find by the Letter which I had last Night the honour to receive from your Ldp that after a fatiguing Journey you are arrived in good health at N York. I shall with pleasure wait your Ldp's Arrival here to have an Opportunity of paying my Respects in Person to your Ldp, but as our Assembly is by my Appointment to meet the 10th of next Month I must beg the favour of your Ldp to let it be signified to me whether you will have any Commands for me at this Place after the fifth of next Month that if I may not be certain of returning to Annapolis on that Day at farthest I might send timely Orders to have the Assembly prorogued to a longer Day.

I am &c.

Letter Bk. I. p. 259

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

23d of Feby 1757 at Philadelphia & transmitted by the Packett from N York—

Sir

In my last dated the 4th Inst. I informed you that the Earl of Loudoun had thought proper to require my Attendance here at this time when he expected the Governors of Virga & the Carolinaes as well as of this Province would meet & have an Interview with him. Agreeable to His Ldp's Desire Governr Dobbs Mr Dinwiddie & Myself are come hither & have been some Days expecting His Ldp from Boston whither he went immediately on his leaving Albany to lay as is supposed his plan of Operations for the next Summer before the Governors or Legislatures of the five Eastern Colonies & to prevail on them if possible to grant him such Supplies & Assistance as they can respectively afford & as His Ldp thinks he might stand in need of. What were His Ldp's propositions to them or his Expectations from them We know not but it is said that they have come readily into His Ldp's Measures. The Assembly of N York is now sitting & it is presumed that they will not shew less Inclination to support His Ldp & promote His Majestys Service than the New England Gentn have done but no Body ventures to entertain such sanguine Expectations of the Colonies that lye to the Southward. The Assembly of this Province has been some time & is still sitting to very little purpose being resolved as it should seem to give up the Province to the Enemy rather than provide for its Defence by such a Bill as Governor Denny finds himself at Liberty to accept. Inclosed I send you a Copy of the Minutes of their late Proceedings which are just published & by what I can learn they
p. 260 are now acting over the same Part that these Minutes give an Account of. Mr Norris a Quaker their Speaker & Mr Franklin one of their Members are about to embark for England to represent the unhappy Situation of the Province to the Parliament, to exonerate the Assembly as they say of the Blame that has been unjustly thrown on them & to expose the Iniquity (according to their Language) of Proprietary Instructions.

To enable their Ambassadors to execute this important Trust they have given them £2000 & whatever farther Sum they may on their Arrival in England stand in need of or require is to be advanced that Matters may at length be brought to a final Issue & all Occasions of Dispute hereafter be removed by an Act of the British Legislature. I need not tell you after what I have often observed that this Step of the Pensilvanians will be much applauded in Maryland & indeed I shall not be surprized at our Assembly's asking why they may not have

Liberty to imitate so laudable an Example, as many of them Letter Bk. I.
are unwilling to see or endeavour to explain away the Difference that exists between the Constitutions of the two Provinces, indeed all the Assemblies on the Continent begin to turn their Eyes towards Phila[a] & should the Assembly of this Province meet with the least Success in their intended Application Those of the Neighbouring Colonies will become equally untractable & never be satisfied till they have rendered themselves the supreme if not the only Branch of the Legislatures We hear that all the Transports which were charged with Ofarrell's Regiment & the Drafts sent over with them are p. 261
arrived in some Province or other on the Continent except one which put into Antigua being unable to reach the Port to which She was destined.

It is said that these Drafts & the Remains of Shirley's & Pepperell's Regiments (which according to Report are broke) will pretty well fill most of the Regiments in America except the Royal Americans & it is hoped that that also will be near compleat before there shall be occasion for their Service. M[r] Denny tells me that he has been informed that My Lord & the Proprietaries of this Province are already come to a final Agreement about the Divisional Lines & that I might soon expect to receive Instructions in Consequence of such Agreement; As I have not yet received any hint from you concerning this Matter, I am afraid some of your Letters may have miscarried as I find by a Gentleman of Maryland just arrived in the Packett that some of mine to you by Capt Richardsons being taken have done. Be pleased to have the Letters directed for the Secretary of State & M[r] Pownall delivered & to send my Brother's Letter to the Council Office by doing so you will much oblige &c.

[Sharpe to Board of Trade.] Letter Bk. III

Phil[a] 23[d] of Feb[y] 1757.

My Lds

Since I came to this place which I did about a week since in Obedience to a Letter which the Earl of Loudoun was pleased to send me I have had the Honour to receive one from your Ldps dated the 9[th] of Oct[r] last whereby I am directed to have an Embargo laid during His Majesty's Pleasure on all Vessels that may be loaded with Provisions in His Majesty's Province of Maryland & to suffer none to sail till the Owners or Masters have given Bond for the due Delivery of their respective Cargoes in some Port or Place belonging to His Majesty & in Possession of his Subjects I have already informed your Ldps that an Act of Assembly has been made with us to pre-

Letter Bk. III vent the Exportation of Provisions to any of the Enemy's or any Neutral Ports except Lisbon & Madeira, & as soon as I am permitted to return home I shall take Care to extend the Prohibition to these two places also & take effectual measures to prevent any Vessels sayling from Maryland with Provisions till Bond has been given by the Owners or Masters of them agreeable to your Lordship's Instructions. Some of our Vessels that traded to his Majesty's American Islands have lately fallen into the Enemy's hands but there does not appear to be the least room to suspect any Collusion; I flatter myself None of His Majesty's Maryland Subjects will give Offence by such Practices but if any of them should give room for Suspicion your Ldps may be assured that no Endeavours of mine shall be wanting to discover the Offenders & to bring them to Punishment. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Dr. Gregory Sharpe.]

Phila[a] 26[th] feb[y] 1757—

D[r] B[r]

As no other opportunity of Conveyance will probably offer for some time I shall send this by the first Packett that might be dispatched from N York to let you know that the Letter which you writ from Bristol in Oct[r] last reached me before I left Maryland but not before our last Vessels were sailed for London. The Ship by which you sent it fell into the hands of an Enemy but the Master was afterwards suffered to ransom her & proceed on his Voyage otherwise I should not till I arrived here have been shocked with the News of my Brother's Death nor before this time have felt what I have thereupon already suffered. The Loss to me is grievous & irreparable but since I am persuaded that I have no reason to lament on his Account, I will not repine at this Act of Providence on my own, but rather be grateful for the Friends that survive to me & think myself sufficiently happy in not being yet destitute of Brothers that are truely entituled to that Appellation. It gives me great Satisfaction to learn that Brother Will[m] enjoys better health than he had lately done & that you are also well, for this Information I thank you & desire nothing more than that you may continue to send me the same Account. It is now almost a twelve month since I received any Letters from England except of yours & a short one of little Consequence from M[r] Calvert, this I mention lest any of Brother Williams or your own should have been miscarried & I condemned for not duly acknowledging the Receipt of them & returning Answers. I have been near a fortnight at this Place waiting the Commands of Lord Loudoun who desired Governor Dobbs M[r] Din-

widdie & myself to meet him here the 17th Inst. but by what I can find I shall not have the pleasure of seeing His Ldp nor be at Liberty to return home for some time. At present His Ldp is endeavouring to persuade the Eastern Govts to take such Measures & grant such Supplies as may enable him to act offensively next Summer & I presume he will desire us to press our respective Assemblies to follow their Example, but I hope the Execution of His Ldp's Plan is not to depend on the Resolutions of any American Assemblies, if it must I shall be much afraid for the Event few of our People seem to be sufficiently sensible of all the Dangers that threaten them & fewer disposed to contribute generously to remove those that they cannot help perceiving. Some Men have indeed been supported by each of the Colonies for the immediate Protection of their own Frontiers but as these cannot be kept on foot without Expence they have talked in Virginia & in this Province more particularly of disbanding them however I cannot beleive that the Assemblies will be extravagant enough to take so extraordinary a measure. I shall Address a Letter to Brother William after I have seen Lord Loudoun & before I leave Phila[a] I may then perhaps have something worthy Notice to communicate, at present I have Nothing but I am

Letter Bk. III

D[r] B[r] Y[rs] mo aff[y]

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

Original.

New York Feberuary 28th 1757—

Sir

I had yesterday the Pleasure of yours of the 21st with an Account of your Assembly's being to meet March 17th Affairs stand thus, from the Ice in the River and the Floods, Major General Abercromby, was not able to get here till last night, and we are now beginning to Sett every thing Necessary for the opperations of this Campaign in motion, which with the dispatching the Packet, ready to sail, will take all this Week, and I shall sett out on Sunday March 6th or Monday the 7th to Attend you, & I think our Business my be finish'd at Philadelphia by the 20th from where you will be able to Iudge what time it will be Necessary for you to Ajourne your Assembly to.

I am Extremely sorry to have been obliged to detain you so long but the Arrival of Letters from the Government at Home, and the Impractability of the Roads in some Parts of the Country have been the sole Cause of it.

I ever am with great Regard
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Loudoun.

To Governor Sharp.

Original.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

New York March 2d 1757.

Sir

A I have received His Majestys Orders to make preparations, for vigorous & Offensive Operations, in the ensueing Critical & important Campaign,

This obliges me, to recommend it to you, to lay an Embargo, on the Port or Ports of your Government, least I should not be able, to carry that Plan to the extent, that the importance of it requires.

As you must be sensible of the necessity of secrecy, in operations of this nature, I cannot doubt, that you will Excuse, my not laying the Plan before you.

This measure I see necessary to recommend to Virginia, and all the Governments northward of it, that His Majestys Services may not be disappointed, of a Supply of such Ships or Vessels, as may be necessary for carrying this important Service into Execution, so essential to the welbeing of His Majestys Colonies.

From the present situation of Affairs, and the advanced Season, there has not been time, to concert this measure with the different Governments; but I have the Satisfaction to Acquaint you, that in Consequence of this recommendation, an Embargo has this day taken place in the port and Ports of this Province; and I can have no doubt, from your Zeal, that in support of the common Cause, your Province will follow so good an Example. I must therefore desire you will send me by the return of this Express, an account of the Ships and Vessels in your Ports, and their Tonnage, fitt for Transporting Troops; that I may give you the earliest notice, of what part of them, will be necessary to take into His Majestys Service.

And I must further desire, that this may not be made Publick till the Embargo is actually laid on.

I am with great regard,
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Loudoun—

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[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Phila^a the 23^d of March 1757 & transmitted by M^r Franklin in the Packett.

My Lord

In a Letter which I sent by the N York Packett the 23^d of Feb^y I desired M^r Calvert to advise your Ldp of my being

come hither with Governor Dobbs & M^r^ Dinwiddie in obedience to Letters which we had severally received from the Earl of Loudoun who intended to have met Us the 17^th^ of last Month but by reason of some unavoidable Delay in the Northern Governments could not reach Phil^a^ before the 16^th^ Inst. Since that time His Lordship has been pleased to communicate to us his intended plan of operations for the ensuing Campaign & to signify what Assistance he expects & requires from the several Colonies with the Gov^t^ of which We have the honour to be intrusted. For the Defence of the Northern Colonies I find His Ldp. intends to leave under the Command of General Webb one of the old Regiments the N York Independant Companies & a Battalion of the Royal Americans to be joined by about 5000 Provincials that the Eastern Colonies have engaged to furnish for that Service. For the better Defence of these Southern Colonies Colonel Stanwix will be ordered to encamp somewhere near the Frontiers of this Province with five Companies of the first Battalion of Royal Americans & the other half of the Battalion will be ordered to South Carolina under the Command of Lieut^t^ Col^o^ Bouquet. It is proposed that 1400 Men shall be raised & supported by this Province of whom 1000 are to be disposed of on the Frontiers of Pensilvania & the other 200 sent to South Carolina. that 500 Men shall be supported by the Province of Maryland on our own Frontiers viz^t^ 300 to garrison Fort Cumberland & 200 for Fort Frederick & to keep the Communication open between the two Places. The Virginians are to raise & Support 1000 Men of whom 400 are to be sent to South Carolina & 600 posted on their own Frontiers. 400 Men are required of North Carolina of whom 100 are to be ordered to the Western Frontier of that Province, 100 to the Sea Coast & 200 to South Carolina. What Number the Province of So. Carolina is to support I know not but it will be left to them to victual all the Forces that are sent to them hence & from the other Colonies & as there is room to fear that the French are meditating an Expedition ag^st^ that Province it is not doubted but they will themselves raise a considerable Number of Men on this Occasion. Since my Arrival here an Embargo has been laid by His Ldp's Orders in all the Ports north of the Carolinaes that His Ldp might be supplied with Shipping & Sailors for the Transportation of the Troops & Stores that he intends to take hence, The Trading People complain heavily of this Step but as His Majesty's Service absolutely required it I hope your Ldp will approve of my sending the same Orders to the Collectors & Naval Officers in your Ldp's Province, that Governor Denny & the other Governors gave to the Port-Officers under their Direction. As

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Letter Bk. I. His Ldp has no farther Commands for us Governors Dinwiddie Dobbs & Myself intend to set off for Annapolis next Friday Morning. The Assembly is to meet there the Monday following, if the Small Pox rages less there than it has lately done perhaps we shall be able to get a House but if the Members decline coming thither for fear of that Distemper I shall with the Advice of your Ldps Council prorogue the Assembly for a few Days & then appoint them to meet at Baltimore Town in Case the Small Pox should not be at that place. As a considerable part of the £40,000 remains still unexpended I hope I shall be able to persuade the Assembly to furnish the
p. 264 Quota that His Lordship requires of them (which indeed I think no large one & I hope too they will raise the Additional Supplies that I shall ask by such means as will be agreeable to Your Ldp tho I am afraid that Mr Denny's being pressed by Ld Loudoun to recede from some Points that he has been insisting on with his Assembly will have an ill Effect on the Assemblies of the other Provinces. As to the Question between Govr Denny & the Assembly whether the Proprietaries Quit Rents & unimproved Lands should be subjected to a Tax I hear it is to be waved for the present but the Assembly have deputed two Members of their House to go to England to make Application to Parliament & to endeavour to get the Sense of the Legislature of Great Britain on the Matters about which their Governors & they have been unhappily contending. It was reported here yesterday that some Indians whom We look upon as our Friends are come into a Fort which the Troops in the pay of this Province have been building at a Place called Shamokin (at the Forks of Susquehanna about 100 Miles North-West from this Place) & declare that the French & Indians at Venango to the Number of 800 are making Preparations to make a Descent on Shamokin as soon as the Weather will permit. The Garrison at present there does not consist of more than 200 Men but I hope if the Enemy have really any such Design it will be reinforced before they can carry it into Execution. I shall embrace the first opportunity of Conveyance that offers to acquaint Your Ldp with my Success with the Assembly & with every Occurrence which may be worthy your Ldp's Notice in the mean time I remain My Ld Yr Ldp's

mo faithful & mo devoted Servt

p. 265 [Sharpe to Calvert.]

24th March 1757.

Sir

As I am obliged to wait on Lord Loudoun this Morning & am afraid that I shall scarcely find time before I leave this place

to write you a long Letter I take the Liberty to send you a Letter Bk. I.
Copy of one that I inclose to His Lordship whence you will learn what Steps are taking here & what His Ldp has given us in Charge. I shall set off for Annapolis to Morrow that I may be able to get thither by the Day that I have appointed to meet the Assembly. I do not know when His Ldp will order the Embargo to be taken off but as soon as any Vessels shall be permitted to sail I shall take Care to advise you of my Success with the Assembly & of every other Occurrence worthy your Notice—

[Sharpe to Wm. Sharpe.] Letter Bk. III

Phil[a] 24[th] March 1757—

D[r] B[r]

As I shall not probably have any other opportunity of transmitting Letters to England for some time by reason of an Embargo which the Earl of Loudoun has ordered to be laid in the several Colonies I write now by the Packett to acquaint you that in Obedience to a Letter which I received from His Ldp I came hither with Gov[r] Dinwiddie the 16[th] of last Month expecting to have the Satisfaction of seeing His Ldp according to Appointment the Day after. I presume that when His Ldp writ to us he hoped the New England People would have been as ready to enter on & dispatch Business as he could be but as that was by no means the Case he was not able to reach this Place before the 14[th] Inst. since which time he has communicated to Us the Plan of Operations that he proposes to persue this Summer & given Gov[r] Dobbs M[r] Dinwiddie Gov[r] Denny & Myself to understand what Assistance he expects from the several Provinces with the Gover[t] of which we are respectively entrusted. The Number of Men that We have agreed the several Southern Colonies ought to raise & support this Summer & that His Ldp thereupon requires of them is from Pens[a] 1400. Maryland 500. Virg[a] 1000 N° Carolina 400 to be disposed of in the following manner. 1200 of the Pens[a] Troops on the Frontiers of this Province & the other 200 to be sent to S° Carolina. 300 of the Maryland Forces at Fort Cumberland & the other 200 at Fort Frederick & between the two Forts. Of the Virginians 600 on the Frontiers of that Province & 400 to be sent to S° Carolina, of the Men to be raised in N Carolina 100 are to be posted on the Western Frontiers of that Province 100 on the Sea Coast & 200 sent to S° Carolina, beside the Provincials abovementioned Lieut[t] Col° Bouquet will be ordered to So Carolina with five Companies of the first Battalion of Royal Americans as there is great reason to fear that the French will make an Attempt on that

Letter Bk. III Colony; & the other five Companies of that Battalion are to encamp under the command of Col° Stanwix somewhere near the Western Frontier of this Province. If our respective Assemblies will enable us to raise the Number of men required by His Ldp We hope by this Disposition of them to secure our Frontiers effectually till we know the Success of the Expedition which I doubt not but you know His Ldp is about to undertake. To defend the Frontiers of the Northern Colonies & prevent any Incursions from Canada this Summer His Ldp intends to leave behind him one of the old Regiments a Battalion of the Royal Americans & the N York Independant Companies under the Command of General Webb & to these we expect will be added about 5000 Provincials from the Eastern Colonies. The other old Regiments now on the Continent together with two Battalions of the Royal Americans & a few Companies of Provincials from Boston will receive Orders to embark as soon as His Ldp thinks proper to begin the Campaign Yesterday an Account was brought by some Indians whom we look upon as our Friends that the French are making preparations at Venango & intend to attempt a Fort which the Troops of this Province have been building at a place in the Maps called Shamokin at the Conflux of the two Branches of the Susquehanna River about 100 Miles N W from this place. The Garrison at present consists of no more than 190 Men but it is hoped that if the French have really a Design on it the Weather will prevent their putting it in execution till the Garrison can be reinforced. The Assembly of this Province has been sitting almost without Interruption ever since November last, I beleive at the Request of Lord Loudoun M^r^ Denny will at length consent to accept a Bill which they have framed for granting a Sum of Money for His Majesty's Service tho it be contrary to the Instructions that the Proprietaries have been pleased to give him. I hope I shall not find myself under the same disagreeable Necessity when I meet our Assembly next week but His Ldp seems to insist on our obtaining Supplies at any Rate & says if the Assemblies should be unreasonable in their Requisitions they may expect to have their Conduct examined afterwards at home & be censured as they shall deserve— I am &c—

[Sharpe to Dagworthy.]

Fort Frederick dated at Annapolis the 30th of March 1757 & dld the next Morning to Colo. Washington—

Sir

You are as soon as possible after you receive this to march to Fort Cumberland with your own Company & as many Men

of that commanded by Capt Joshua Beall as will make the Number 150. On your Arrival there Lieut[t] Col[o] Steven or the officer that at present commands in that place will deliver up the Fort with its Artillery & all the Kings Stores that shall be therein, for the Stores you are to pass a Receipt as well as for the Provisions that the Commanding Officer shall have Orders to leave for the use of the Troops under your Command, with these Provisions you are to have the Garrison supplied as the Men have been at Fort Frederick till you receive farther Orders. You are to look on Col[o] Stanwix (who is about to march with a Detachment of the Royal American Regiment towards the Frontiers of Pensilv[a]) as your Commanding Officer during the Summer or till you receive farther Orders & you are regularly to correspond with & make due Returns to him accordingly not neglecting however to write to me & to advise me of all your Proceedings as you have hitherto done. I am &c— Letter Bk. III

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.] Original.

Williamsburg Ap[l] 5[th] 1757.

Sir

I arrived here Thursday morning after I left Annapolis, & I found a Letter from Gov[r] Lyttleton, who is very apprehensive the French design to invade S[o] Carolina by Sea from Hispaniola & by Land from Mississippi, & has wrote fully to Lord Loudoun on that Head desir[g] assistance, which I forward with this.

I have order'd Col[o] Washington to march down to Fredericksburg 200 of the men from Fort Cumberland, to be transported to S[o] Carolina, not doubting but You have order'd Your Forces to garison that Fortress in the room of the Virginians, & I think [proper to] acquaint You therewith, that no Delay may be given to the Assistance of M[r] Lyttleton.

I have been confin'd to my Chamber ever since arrival by a violent Cold.—The Expresses Col[o] Tasker was so kind to send were paid here—My Complim[ts] to M[r] Ridout & I remain with great Regard & Esteem

Sir

Your most obed[t] hble. Serv[t]

Rob[t] Dinwiddie

Copy.

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

London April the 7th 1757.

Sir

By Acct from Ireland, Admiral Holbourn is sail'd with fifteen of the Line & Transports on Board abt eight Thousand Land fforces with a Large Train of Artillery & Warlike stores for America, the Fleet was wind bound above six weeks at Spithead. By Capt Iohnston for Patuxent River with The Trade convoy'd, I answer'd seven Letters of yors of 1756 with his Lordships Instructions of that Date, confirming the several Laws pass'd by you in the Sessions of Assembly Held the 3d of Febry 1756. with his Vice Admiral's commission & divers other concerns, your requests to my Lord—Yrs of the 16th of Octr since recd you mention "after passing An Act for his Majesty's service with five others, you had prorogued the Assembly & that you Inclosed a Copy of the Act above mention'd," I have recd none, however by the Iournals of the Upper house of tht Assembly Held the 14th of Septr & prorogued by you to the 31st of March, the Act nor the five others passed can I apprehend meet with disaprobation, but this you'l know on Arival of the Laws to my Lord; who well approves of yors conduct & gives him much satisfaction to understand that from Fort Frederick you hear no Indian has been discover'd near the Borders & that the Frontier Inhabitants were quiet & easy; protected by Garrison Guard patroling between Potomack & the Temporary Line.—His Lordps approves of yr dismission of Mr Edwd Tilghman Rent-Roll-keeper of the Eastern shore he has no exception to Mr Wm Thomas being in that Office, save Mr Thomas's not residing on the shore, which he observes will be very detrimental to his Affairs there brot & left in the greatest confussion by the neglect of Mr Tilghman, and only to be rectified by an assiduous, intelligent person on the spot, for compiling the Rentals & charge of Rent to the Tenants, the means for settling with the Farmers; besides, the Rental Books passing from shore to shore he thinks is too hazardous by water of their being lost or Damaged: thus circumstanced, he's of opinion it will be best to appoint Mr Thomas into another Office, if he can't Reside on the Eastern Shore or unless you can prevail on Mr Lloyd to exchange Rent-Roll-keeper of the Western to the Eastern, as Mr Thomas's Residence is on the Western shore. perhaps Mr Lloyd may be for resigning the agency, if so Whether it would not be greatly of advantage to my Lord's concerns instead of having one Receiver General to have two, one Residing on each shore. the circumstance of these Affairs he leaves to yr Iudgement to operate as opportunity serves, with notice thereof.

The loss of Oswego is a bad Event & opens the way for the Enemy's March to annoy the frontiers of the Southern Province; also relative to y^rs^ of the 3^d^ of Nov^r^ concerning the Assembly's extragant demands on his Lord^p^ he is well Inform'd thereof by their proceeding i. e. the L. H—their ill will & the other Colonies preversness against defence of themselves & his Majesty's Dominions in America will bring on them the Authority of Parliament, for obliging them to contribute their respective Quota's & to exert their united fforce in Defence of themselves & the Soveraign. The spies taken off ffort Cumberland, their Intelligence I hope has proved of Advantage his Lord^p^ approves of y^r^ Presentation to the Rev^d^ M^r^ M^c^Pherson to W^m^ & Mary Parish in Charles County, conformable to his Instruction.

In y^rs^ of the 23^d^ of Feb^y^ last from Philadelphia you mention y^rs^ the 4^th^ of that Instant, which is not come to hand, nor the Inclosed Copy of the Assembly of Pensilvania Proceedings. The Complainants of that Province are not arrived.

By my Lord is shipp'd, Consign'd to you on Board the Vessells call'd the Sally, & Iohn & Ann, the Masters Iohn Iohnston & Iudson Coolidge, bound for Patapsco & Patuxent Rivers in Maryland, Mark'd F. L. B. is put on Board each viz^t^ forty Barrells of Bullets & Twenty Barrells of Gunpowder for the use of the Province und^r^ your Directions.—M^r^ Stuart has been again this year with Complaint on the Duty he charges by the Naval Officers that is Collected by them on Convicts, by the Act for raising six Thousand pound for his Majesty's service, ... seem'd perplex'd what to do? He told me, the Duty Collected was Tantamount in Effect a prohibition to the Acts of Parliament, the Authorities he transported & disposed of them: I answ^d^ I couldn't perceive his Authorties were any way Questioned by the Maryland Act, nor could I conceive his Authorities meant, on Gain by Traffick of them to Barr with fforce of excluding such Dues in Common with the Subject, in Support of his Majesty's Crown & Dignity & the Primary Law of Nature—Self Defence! But of this his Lord^p^ was Judge, with Appeal to His Majesty in Council.—Since, he has presented his memorial of Complaint to the proprietor, who has referred it for Advice to S^r^ Robert Henley His Majesty's Attor^y^ Gen^l^ His wrangling Occaisioned by the opinion of the Provincial Lawyers to the Naval Officers for requiring the Duty, obscure by the Law, tends to the disquiet of the Proprietor, the Province, to you the Lieu^t^ Govern^r^ Naval Officers & all parties Concerned, from a measure set into Debate.

A Petition by Iohn Beadnall of Queen Ann's County in Maryland stiling himself Clerk, has been presented the Lord proprietor setting forth inter al^s^ viz^t^ . . " towards the close of

the last Summer out of Malevolent Spirit ag^{t} persons of the Roman Catholick persuasion two Indictm^{ts} were preferred & Bills found by the Grand Iury for Talbot County in the said province ag^{t} y^{r} Petitioner as Clerk & Priest of the Church of Rome for having as one of the s^{d} Indictments alledged on the 20th day of Aug^{t} 1756 (& at sundry times before & since) in the House of David Iones & Tho^{s} Browning in the said County Officiated Mass

And by the other of the s^{d} Indictments it was Alledged that y^{r} Petitioner on the 1st of Aug^{t} 1756 (& at sundry times before & since in the s^{d} County) had strove endeavoured & practice to persuade & withdraw Rachael Mackmanus Spinster from her Religion of a Protestant Dissenter (being bred a Quaker) to the Religion of the Church of Rome; and w^{h} Indictments y^{r} Petitioner was on the 29th Day of Sep^{r} last taken up & obliged to give Bail in 1500ł penalty for his Appearance" . . He denies the charge of having endeavoured withdraw the s^{d} Rachael Mackmanus from her Religion." says, "he never had any serious Conversation with her on the subject in all his life" As to the Charge for saying Mass, says, "he conceives it not nor ever was intention to forbid the Excercise of the Roman Catholick Religion in private Family's & would tend to Depopulate that proffitable Colony & as was declared by an order by her Majesty in Council the 3^{d} of Jan^{y} 1705. . And at this pres^{t} time the Romish Religion is not only in Pensilvania tolerated, but the Quakers there have Contributed to the Building in the Capital (Philadelphia) a Chapple for the Roman Catholicks, where they perform Worship publickly &c.

He concludes his Petition . . . . Humbly pray y^{r} Lordship would be pleased to Order the Govern^{r} of the s^{d} Province of Maryland to direct the Attor^{y} General there to Grant a Noli prosequi to the said Indictments. Or in Case of any Conviction to Grant y^{r} Petitioner a Pardon.

In answer to the said Petition. I write y^{r} Brother Ioshua Sharpe Attor^{y} & Soll^{r} for the above party, to Inform the Party by the directions of my Lord Viz^{t} "That his Lord^{p} has considered the Contents of M^{r} Beadnall's Petition delivered him, that the Method in the prosecution of Roman Catholicks on Religious Concerns in Maryland is by known Laws not only of the Province But also, by Acts of Parliament throughout his Majesty's Realm, that he sets up no Persecution upon them, But if they are brought before his Provincial Courts of Iustice arraigned & accused, on Conviction they are to be punished; that he is wholly unacquainted with the Contents of the Petition from his Lieu^{t} Governor, cannot from the matter set forth comply with the prayer of the said M^{r} Beadnall's Petition"

C. C.

May the 20th 1757 an Express arrived from Col. York, his Majesty's Minister & plenipotentiary at the Hague, an acct of the Victory obtain'd by the King of Prussia over the Austrian Army. The King being inform'd that Marshal Brown was resolved to maintain the Post he had taken on the Other side of the Moldau; his Majesty pass'd that River, with a smal part of his own Army, & being joind by that under the Command of Marshall Schwerin, determin'd to attack the Enemy, though much Superior in number of Troops & post'd besides in a Camp almost inaccessible, the Prussian Officers & men vived with each other in passing Defiles, in crossing marshes, & Seizing the rising ground, till at Length after a Long & obstinate engagement, the Enemy was forced to abandon the field of Battle, leaveing behind them the greatest part of their Artillery, all their Tents, all their Bagage & in a word their whole Camp—

Marshall Schwerin was kill'd & Several others; the Loss of the Austrians greater not only in the Number of the Dead & Wounded, but also in the Number of Prisoners; insomuch, that this Battle may be reckon'd deccisive, & not less reason than Glorious in its Consequence the main Body of the Austrians with the Princes of Blood &c. retired, & are coop'd up in Prague. This Letter has been yrs months on my Table for want of safe Passage by convoy, the delay gives oppertunity of Acquainting you the Establishment of the Administration here into the great Offices, which has been under pause some time, now fix'd Viz. Sr Robert Henley Lord-Keeper of the Great Seal. His Grace of Newcastle first Lord of the Treasury. The Rt Honble Bilson Legge Chanr of the Excheqr Lord Anson first Lord of Admiralty. The Earl of Temple Lord privy Seal. The Earl Gower Master of the Horse. The Rt Honble Henry Fox pay Master of the fforces. The Honble Geo. Greenville Treasurer of the Navy. The Rt Honble Wm Pitt Secy of State. Mr Pratt Counsel at Law Attory Genl with other particulars in the Inclosed News Papers & with particulars of the unsuccessful action near Kaurzim in Bohemia Iune the 18th when the Prussians retired & left the Austrians masters of the field of Battle, & Occasioned the King of Prusia immediatly, to raise the Blockade of Prague & retire towards Leitmeritz His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland has repassed the Weser to dispute the Passage with the French; the Odds are dreaded, the Latter being in Number tis said superiour 50000, the Issue of Things bear Melancholy Pressage, Pray God avert the Evil & may all happiness Attend you.

Yours truly Cæcils Calvert.

Post. by this Letter & mine of the 16th of Decemr last I have answd yrs received from you unto Iuly the 10th this Instant

On closing this Letter I have received y^rs^ of the 24^th^ of March with your Packet from Philadelphia, The steps you Advise Lord Loudoun has taken & Plan'd for the Deffence of the Colonies is so Judicious & well-concerted towards the security & for the Preservation of the Southern Provinces, that it can't be suppos'd that the maintenance of such reasonable & benificial requisits can meet with objection or refusal from each Province towards furnishing their quotas. As to the question bet^n^ Gov^r^ Denny & the Assembly, whether the Proprietaries Mess^rs^ Penns Quit rents & unimproved Lands should be subject to a Tax? Tis apprehended here the sending Messengers for a Solution to England is rediculous, to imagine that Lands shall be subject to a Tax in a double capacity. The Tennants of Quit rent do pay Tax, exclusive of the small rent payable by the Tennant to the Lord, therefore 'tis Iudg'd the Imposition will be rejected here, as ag^t^ the Right of the Crown Lord Paramount & Lord Mesne. With regard to the latter dem^d^ the Injustice is so glaring as determines Conviction on itself.

Not any thing as yet has been carried into execution bet. Lord Baltimore & Mess^rs^ Penns with respect to Boundaries, the matter is under reference with the Lawyers on both sides, Their doubts have no resolves. I am of Opinion the Prayer of M^r^ Stuarts Memorial will be rejected. I am Informed M^rs^ Young is dead, wife of M^r^ Young whom My Lord directed to be of the Council of State, she dying without Issue by him & your Policy pointing otherways than him in that Station it will be Acceptable I think to his Lord^p^ if you fill up that Vacancy with M^r^ Bordley Attor^y^ Gen^l^ if you Approve. As to M^r^ Young he aught to enjoy his Emoluments of Office & better if he merits. My Lord Insists on M^r^ Wogan's affair. I have Rece^d^ this year no Remittances. I've deliv^d^ y^r^ several Inclosed L^ts^

To his Excell^y^ Horatio Sharpe L^t^ Governor of Maryland.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

Baltimore 16^th^ April 1757—

My Ld

I now take the Liberty to introduce to your Lordship M^r^ Woolford & M^r^ Nicholson the two Gent^n^ who have been some time employed recruiting here for the Royal American Regiment & have an Ambition of serving under your Ldp the ensuing Campaign. Immediately on my Return to Annapolis I ordered Capt Dagworthy to march with 150 Men to Fort Cumberland as soon as Col^o^ Washington should deliver my Letter which I desired him to do upon his receiving In-

structions from Gover[r] Dinwiddie to draw the Virg[a] Troops from that place, &. as Gov[r] Dinwiddie has since informed me that he has sent M[r] Washington such orders I suppose the Maryland Forces are e'er this in possession of the Fort. I have ordered the Sheriff in whose Custody Corporal W[m] Douglass of the second Battalion was to set him at Liberty & become Bail for him agreeable to Your Ldp's Intention, & whenever the Affair shall be brought to an Issue before the Court I shall give the Attorney Gen[l] Directions to appear in the Corporal's Behalf. I could not get our Assembly to meet till the 8[th] Inst. They have been prevailed on to vote 500 Men for the Defence of this Province & to act in Conjunction with any other Troops that your Ldp shall order, but as they are exceedingly tedious in doing Business I am afraid 'twill be some time before I shall be impowered by an Act of Assembly to order the Additional Companies to be raised, I once more beg Leave to wish your Ldp Success in your Undertakings & am &c— Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Stanwix.]

Baltimore 18[th] April 1757.

D[r] S[r]

Having an opportunity of sending a Letter to Phil[a] by a Young Gent[n] whom I have employed some time to recruit for the Royal Americans & who is now going to offer his Service to the Earl of Loudoun, I embrace it to inform you that in pursuance of Orders which I sent to Capt Dagworthy the 30[th] of last Month he is marched with a Detachment of 150 men to take Possession of Fort Cumberland upon the Virginians relinquishing that place the Rest of our Provincials (who together amount at this time to 250 effective Men) remain at Fort Frederick under the Command of Capt Alex[r] Beall who as well as Capt Dagworthy has my Instructions to make Returns to you & to obey all orders that you may be pleased to send them. I hope I shall prevail on our Assembly to enable me to augment our Troops to 500 Men, they have passed a Vote to that Effect but as they are generally very tedious in doing Business & as I understand that they are at present inclined to assume a little more power with regard to the Appointment of Officers than I can allow them I am afraid the Augmentation will not be made so soon as it might be & as I could wish. I beg you'll present my Compl[ts] to Col[o] Young if he is with you & that you'll beleive me to be with the greatest Regard &c.

Original.

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

New Brunswick in Iersey Ap: 18th 1757

Dear Sir

I received your most obliging Letter from Philadelphia dated about the 26th of last month, I am much obliged to you for your Care & concern of me, and shoud think my self very happy if I were able to travel to Annapolis, that I might accept of your kind Invitation.

The Phisicians have sent me to this place for the Air and to be out of the way of Business, they thought it dangerous for me to cross the Sea in my situation, and they tell me that living on Vegetables & milk with moderate exercise is the only chance I have for recovering; I am sure you will think it hard to have this Sentence pronounced against me and what appears strange to me, is that I have neither Sickness nor pain & I sleep & eat as I used to do. I have intirely got into a sene of life new to me, I hope I shall have temper enough to go thro' with it, I ride out twice a Day in my Chariot, as for the rest of my time I pass it away in doing nothing, and comfort my self with thinking I shall not live to be troublesome to mankind, as the Phisicians say a few months will determine my fate, If it is descided in my favour I hope to see you in the Autumn & I promise you a long visit.

There is nothing new in these parts every body uneasy untill we hear from England, Marshall of the Independents has been before a Court Martial, and is broke, I believe his Lōp will find it a difficult matter to get a Lieut of any standing to accept of the Company it being in so bad a Condition. I shall be glad to hear from you, for the hearing from one for whom I have so great a Regard will always give me pleasure. I am with the greatest Respect Dear Sir,

Govr Sharpe. Your most obedient and most humble Sert

John StClair.

Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67. p. 164

[Letter from Cherokee Indians.]

Fort Frederick 29. April 1757.

Brother of Maryland.

I this Day came into your Province with a Company of our Nation in our Way to War against the French Shuanoes, and all their Indians hearing they killed some of our Brothers, not knowing when we set off from Winchester but the Murder was committed in Virginia but coming to this Fort found we were in another province and on being informed by Captain Beadle that our Brother the Governor of this Province had a real Love for our Nation, and that he had provided Clothes for

our Nation though unacquainted with us, I have just now held a Council with my young Warriors, and has concluded to write to you to acquaint you our Brother, our Design of coming into this Province was hearing from our good Brother the Governor of Virginia that it was the Desire of our Father King George that we would join the English in War against the French and their Indians, on hearing this News we immediately took up the Hatchet against the French and their Indians, and holds it fast 'till we make use of it which I expect will be in a few Days, we intend to set out immediately from this Fort, and on our Return expect to meet you our Brother here to make ourselves acquainted with you if you can't come yourself, you will send one of your beloved men with your Talk to which we will look upon as from your own Mouth, I hope you will let the province of Pensilvania know that I am come this Length to War and if they are in need of our Assistance I have men plenty at Home and will not think it troublesome to come and fight for our Brothers. I set off from home with 150 men, Part of which is gone to Fort Cumberland forty more by this is come to Winchester, our People will be so frequent now amongst you that I wish you mayn't think us troublesome, our Heart achs to see our Brothers Bones scattered about the Country but you will hear in a short time we have got Satisfaction for our Brothers, and in confirmation of what I have spoke I have sent you these few white Beads to confirm my Regard to this province likewise I have sent you these black Beads to convince you that I have taken up the Hatchett against all the English Enemies, we intend to stay as long amongst our Brothers as there is use for us I hope our good Brother wont be backward in providing Necessaries for us, I have sent you a List of what is useful for us, and have got our good Friend M^{r} Ross to carry this Letter to you which we shall always acknowledge as a particular friend to us, as we expect to see you soon we will say no more at present, but remain your Loving Brothers.

Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753-67. p. 164

his
Wahachey — of Keeway
Mark

[Loudoun to Sharpe.] Original.

New York April 30th 1757.

Sir.

Its having been represented to me, that at the Time of laying on the Embargo, there were a Number of Vessels in the several ports of the provinces, where the Embargo took place, that were actually loaded & Cleared, previous to the Embargo being laid;

And being desirous to give every Ease, to the Trade, consistant with Carrying on the Service I have consulted with Sir Charles Hardy, & we both agree, that considering the Forwardness, in which the Transports now are, that the said Ships so loaded & clear'd at the Time of laying the Embargo, may, without prejudice to his Majesty's Service, be permitted to depart on Friday the 6th Day of March next.

And I am in Hopes of having Things soon in such Forwardness, as to be able to write to you, to take off all restraint from the Shiping on Account of that part of His Majesty's Service, that I am particularly appointed to manage. I am, with great Regard

Sir
Your most obedient humble Servant,
Loudoun.

To The Honble Horatio Sharpe Esqr

Original.

[Sir Charles Hardy to Sharpe.]

Fort George New York 30th April 1757.

Sir

As there was some Ships and Vessels in this Port that were actually Loaded and Cleared out when the General Embargo was laid on, and the Transports taken up for his Majestys Service being in great forwardness; I have with the Advice of his Majesty's Council given leave to such Ships and Vessels to depart on a certain day agreable to the Inclos'd minute of Council, to which I beg leave to referr you, and shall only observe, that no ships or Vessels that were not Cleared on the 2d day of March last, will be permitted to Sail, But the Embargo will be continued till his Majestys Service will admit of taking it off, in all which I hope your Government will Concurr.

I am with great regard
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Chas Hardy

The Honble Governor Sharpe.

Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67. p. 181

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

New York May 5th 1757

Sr

As I have received a Copy of a Letter from one of his Majesty's principal Secretary's of State to you, signifying his

Majesty's Pleasure that you should apply to your Council and Assembly in the strongest manner to raise with the utmost Expedition as large a number of Provincial Troops as may be for the Service of the ensuing Campaign over and above what they shall judge necessary for the immediate Defence of their own Province. And as I am now preparing agreeable to his Majesty's Orders to me to leave this Province with the Transports in order to join the Fleet, and succours from Europe, It's necessary to acquaint you that I shall leave Major General Webb to command at Albany and the Forts with a Body of his Majesty's regular Forces, together with the Troops raised by the northern Colonies, who will have the principal Command during my Absence. And that in Consequence of the Plan settled at the meeting I had with the Governors of the Southern Provinces at Philadelphia, I leave Colonel Stanwix with 5 Companies of the first Battalion of the Royal American Regiment to take Post in the Back Parts of Pensilvania, and to have the Command of the remaining Part of the Pensilvania Troops, the Troops raised in Maryland, and the remaining Part of the Troops raised in Virginia. And that I detach Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet with the other 5 Companies of that Battalion to South Carolina, who carrys with him two hundred of the Pensilvania Troops four hundred of the Virginia Troops, and have ordered two hundred of the Troops raised by North Carolina to meet him in South Carolina where he is to take the Command of his Majesty's three independent Companies, and likewise of the Troops raised by the Province of South Carolina for the Security of that, and the most southernly Provinces. And in order to prevent any Dispute hereafter, it will be necessary here to remind you, that at that Meeting it was settled, and is agreeable to his Majestys Orders from his principal Secretary of State that I should supply the Provincial Troops detached from Pensilvania, Virginia, and North Carolina to South Carolina but that the Provincial Troops who remain and are employed for the Defence of their respective Provinces should be entirely supported and maintained by the Provinces by whom they are raised. As the Plan we had settled before the Arrival of his Majesty's Orders by his principal Secretary of State, I hope if punctually and speedily executed on your Part will prevent any immediate Danger, I must recommend it to you in the most earnest manner that you will immediately in Consequence of his Majestys Orders signified to you set about raising and getting in Readiness, a considerable Force to be ready to join and support the Troops already agreed upon to be raised for the public Service.

Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67.

And that you will in the meantime give orders that the Militia of your Province should be properly armed and fur-

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Liber J. R. & U. S. 1753–67.

nished with Ammunition, and have a standing order to march to the Aid and Assistance of the Forces already appointed on the Requisition of the Commander of them, and that this Order should be more particularly given and enforced in such Parts of your Province as are most nearly situated to those Forces or the Passes through which the Enemy can enter without waiting for any further orders from you: From your Zeal for the Public Service I cannot doubt of your complying with this Recommendation, and hope if the necessary orders are given, and strictly obeyed by them to receive the same Benefit from your Militia that we did lately on the Enemy's Attempt on Fort William Henry from the Militia in the upper parts of this Country. I shall send a Copy of this to Col° Stanwix, to whom by Philadelphia I desire you will communicate the Orders you give, and to whom, that he may know what Officers of your Militia to call upon on any Emergency, and that you will likewise transmit a Copy to me at New York

I am with great Regard Sir
Your most obed^{t} hble serv^{t}
Loudoun

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

5th May 1757—

S^{r}

I was sorry to find by your Letter dated the 5th of April that you have been indisposed since your Return to Williamsburg, I hope you are e'er this perfectly recovered & that you will long continue to enjoy a good State of health. Before Colo. Washington left Annapolis I gave him a Letter to Capt Dagworthy to be delivered as soon as the Col° should receive your orders to withdraw the Virginians from Fort Cumberland & I learn that in pursuance of my Instructions Capt Dagworthy has taken Possession of that place with a Detachment of 150 effective Men from the Troops in the Pay of this Province. You will see by the inclosed Copy of a Return which Capt Dagworthy has sent me what quantity of Provisions & Stores were delivered to him on his Arrival at the Fort & in what Condition they were delivered. He informs me that the Beef is so very bad that the Men will not touch it & that he is obliged to victual them entirely with Fish till a fress Supply of Provisions can be sent him from Fort Frederick. You will be pleased to write to Col° Washington & to give him orders to remove or destroy the Beef as you shall think proper. As the Gentlemen of the Assembly did not come to Annapolis accord-

ing to Appointment on Account of the Small-Pox I prorogued Letter Bk. III
them to the 8th of last Month, & then met them at this Place, they have at length framed a Bill whereby I shall be impowered to augment the Troops in the pay of this Province to 500 Men but they are exceedingly averse to having any of them posted at Fort Cumberland, I have signified to them that Capt Dagworthy has already Possession of that place in obedience to Lord Loudoun's orders, but they do not choose to take any Notice of my Message. As the Agents named in our Bill will contract with a Person to victual our Troops as they have before done I can say nothing about the Salt, Flour Biskett Hog's Lard & Tallow that has been delivered to Capt Dagworthy but I shall desire the Person who may contract to wait on Colo Washington or the Officer commanding at Winchester & with your Approbation to agree with him for the same. I presume the Fish & Beans are part of the Stores that Genl Braddock left, Capt Dagworthy will keep an Account of what quantity of either he draws for but I suppose that quantity will not be great. He informs me that there is a considerable Number of Cherokee Catawba & Nottoway Indians with him at present & that they expect to be joined by many others from their respective Tribes, who upon your Invitation have declared in our favour & are come from home to act in Conjunction with the Forces that are supported for the Defence of these Colonies. As our Assembly is so excessively parcimonious that they will not give any Officer or the Commissary Leave to furnish any Persons whatsoever with Provisions beside the Men borne on the Muster Rolls & will agree to Nothing wherein Fort Cumberland is mentioned, Dagworthy is much distressed & knows not what to do with the Indians who visit him, to deny them Provisions when they are come by our Invitation & to serve us would in all Probability be attended with very bad Consequences, & I have no Fund or Sum of Money under my Command as Governor of this Province out of which I could order a Shilling to be paid on the most pressing occasion therefore I must submit this Affair to your Consideration hoping you will be able to free Capt Dagworthy from the Difficulties in which he finds himself at present involved. We have not yet received any certain Advice of the Arrival of the Fleet expected from England nor of the Embarkation of any Men in the Northern Colonies. I understand that the Earl of Loudoun remains at N York & Colo Stanwix with the first Battalion of Royal Americans at Phila[a]—

I am &c—

Original. [St. Clair to Sharpe.]

New York May 6th 1757

Dear Sir

My being in the Country for 3 weeks has so much recovered me that I have been able to return to this place to see how things are going on, and I propose staying untill His Lōp sails which I hope will be in ten Days at furthest. Our affairs are now carried on with Spirit.

As I shall return to Brunswick I shall be left alone, I must therefore entreat you to write to me by every opportunity, and as I must be informed very minutely of every thing that happens I shall communicate it to you.

I am with the utmost Regard

Dear Sir
Your most obedient and most
humble Servant
John St Clair

Letter Bk. III [Sharpe to Stanwix.]

8th of May, 1757

Sir

I am very sorry to inform you that I cannot prevail with the Assembly of this Province to engage to support Fort Cumberland but that on the Contrary they have come to a Resolution to pay no Captains or Companies that shall be posted there. By the Bill which they have been framing & which now lies before me for my Assent I can order Detachments from our several Companies thither under the Command of Subaltern Officers to be releived from Fort Frederick every Month but they will not suffer one of our Officers to have the Chief Command nor our Troops to be posted there as a Garrison, apprehending I presume that by agreeing at this time to raise & support Soldiers for the Defence of that place they should take a Burthen on themselves which they will be unable afterwards to get quit of & fearing also lest by an Officer of ours having the Command of the Fort the Expence of furnishing all the Indians that may declare in our favour & come thither with Provisions & other Necessaries should fall on this Province. I say it might be presumed that such Considerations as these have determined them to take such a Resolution but whatever their Reasons are I find they will not recede & therefore I should be much obliged to you for ordering any Officer who will command our Subalterns to releive Dagworthy that himself & his Company may again be entituled to their Pay &

Provisions. I shall order him to leave 120 of our Men as Detachments from his & the other Companies & as soon as our Troops can be augmented to 500 as proposed, the Detachments shall if you think proper amount to 250 to be relieved monthly as I have already intimated. I shall order a Surgeon to remain at Fort Cumberland & a Person will also reside there to deliver out Provisions to the Detachments; if Provisions should be wanted for the Command that you may order thither M^r^ David Ross who victuals our Troops will if you please engage to deliver at the Fort any Quantity at as low a Price as any one can afford. He victuals the Garrison at Fort Frederick at the Rate of 9^s^ Currency for each Man ꝑ Day, & has given great Satisfaction, he has the Character of an honest Man & will I am persuaded punctually comply with the Forms of any Contract that he shall enter into. I learn from Fort Cumberland that there is a considerable Number of Catawba & Nottoway Indians at that place who are come from the Southward to act in Conjunction with the Troops that shall be employed for the Protection & Defence of these Colonies & by a Letter which I have received from Fort Frederick I find that 62 Cherokees are come thither with the same Design. I have ordered the Express to wait for your answer the Receipt of which will afford much Satisfaction to S^r^ &c. Letter Bk.III

[Sharpe to Denny.]

Baltimore 8^th^ May 1757

Dear Sir

I should not have so long delayed to make my Acknowledgments for the Civilities I received at your hands while I was at Phila^a^ If I could have conceived that our Assembly would let so many Weeks elapse without coming to some Resolution upon the Matters that at the Opening of the Session I recommended to their Consideration. They have at length with great Reluctance impowered me to augment the Troops in the pay of this Province to five hundred Men to act as they express themselves in Conjunction with the Forces that may be raised in the Neighbouring Colonies or ordered to these Parts for His Majesty's Service & the Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants with this Reserve however that none of our Officers shall have the Chief Command at Fort Cumberland nor any of the 500 Men placed there as a Standing Garrison. I have endeavoured to convince them of the Impropriety of such a Restraint or Prohibition as Lord Loudoun has already ordered a Detachment of the Maryland Forces thither but they are deaf to all the Arguments that I can use in favour

Letter Bk. III of the Disposition that was to be made; They have been told that your Assembly have refused to make Provision for any Troops that may be transported thence to Carolina & as they are unwilling to be thought more tractable than their Neighbours they have assured me that His Ldp's Orders concerning the Disposition of our Troops shews that he is little acquainted with the situation of Fort Cumberland & the Frontiers of Maryland & that he cannot reasonably expect or desire the Inhabitants of this Province to support Men to garrison that place, but being still in hopes that an Expedition will be undertaken to the Westward they have left it to Colonel Stanwix or the officer that may be appointed to command on such an Occasion to draw out of the Province as many of the 500 when raised as I shall agree to part with. Inclosed I send you a Copy of a Message which was sent to me a few Days ago by Sixty two Cherokee Indians who were then at Fort Frederick, you will observe that they desire me to notify their Arrival to you & they hope I presume that you will give them an Invitation to Pensilvania. On my recommending it to the Assembly to make some Provision for their Encouragement & Support during their Stay among us, they have desired me to send them a small present & to have them supplied with Provisions & such Necessaries as they may stand in need of but as they have declined appropriating any sum of money to their use except One hundred pounds for a Present & have on former occasions convinced me & many others that a Vote of Credit is not much to be depended on, I am afraid I shall get no body to victual them & that they will not meet with such a Reception here as Gov^{r} Dinwiddie has given them reason to expect.

[Sharp to Dinwiddie.]

May 9th 1757—

Sir

In my Letter of the 5th Inst, I told you that the Assembly of this Province had at length framed a Bill whereby I was impowered to augment the Troops in the Pay of this Province to 500 Men but that they were very averse to having any of them posted at Fort Cumberland, I presume this arises from an apprehension that if they once undertake to support that place they shall never afterwards be able to get quit of the Burthen & from a Suspicion that the Expence of furnishing the Indians who may declare in our favour & come thither with Necessaries would fall entirely on this Province was an officer of ours to have the Chief Command there, but whatever be their Reasons they have restrained me from posting any of

the Troops in the pay of this Province as a Standing Garrison Letter Bk. III
in that Fort & I have been obliged to desire Col° Stanwix to order a Command to releive Capt Dagworthy as soon as possible or at least to send some Officer to take the Command for till he be superceeded no Provisions can be issued by the Agents for him or his Company. I have endeavoured to convince the Assembly of the Impropriety of such a Prohibition seeing Lord Loudoun had made the Disposition & had ordered Dagworthy to take possession of the Fort but they were deaf to all the Arguments I could use & lest they should appear more tractable than the Pensilvanians (who have refused I am told to transport any Men to Carolina) they took the Liberty to tell me that Lord Loudoun must be little acquainted with the Situation of Fort Cumberland & the Frontiers of Maryland or else he never could expect or desire the Inhabitants of this Province to support Troops to garrison that Place. They have however put it in the power of Col° Stanwix to draw as many of our Men when they are raised out of the Province as I shall choose to part with or I may order a Detachment from every Company to do Duty at Fort Cumberland for a Month & then to be relieved by other Detachments & upon these Conditions or Considerations I have this Morning assented to their Bill. I have received a Message from Sixty two Cherokees who are come into Fort Frederick wherein they tell me that they have taken up the Hatchet against the French & their Indian Allies & that they are come from home by your Invitation to prosecute the War against them. I shall send them an Answer with a Present to the Value of £100 which is all that our Assembly have thought proper to appropriate to their use. I have also ordered the Commissary at Fort Frederick to supply them with Provisions during their Stay on our Frontiers. I have this Instant received Advice from Fort Cumberland that Part of the Garrison under the Command of a Captain Lieutenant & Ensign had a Skirmish near that place the fourth of this Month with a Party of Indians who had killed three Soldiers that were cutting Wood at a little Distance from the Fort. After Skirmishing some time our people being much inferiour in Number to the Enemy retreated to the Fort with two of the Detachment wounded, the Indians disappeared soon afterwards leaving a Matchcoat & a few Trinketts on the Place where the action happened. About half an hour after Sergeant Fent of the Virginia Regiment & a Catawba who were both taken Prisoners in November last & carried to Fort Du Quesne came into Fort Cumberland. I presume you will receive an Account of this & a Copy of Fents Deposition before my Letter can reach you, wherefore I will no longer detain the Post but conclude with assuring you that I am &c

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Hardy.]

Annapolis the 13th of May 1757.

Sir

At the same time that I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters dated the 30th of April & 2d Inst. I beg leave to congratulate you on your Receipt of orders to hoist your Flag & most heartily wish you Success, I also return you thanks for forwarding the Packett from Mr Secretary Pitt & am &c

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

13th May 1757—

My Lord

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Ldp's Letters from N York dated the 30th of April & the 5th Inst. I observe what your Lordship says concerning your Disposition of the Troops as well Regulars as Provincial that you propose to leave under the Command of Genl Webb & Colo Stanwix & shall use my utmost Endeavours to raise the Men that are expected from this Province. In Obedience to your Ldp's Commands I have issued a Proclamation requiring all Officers of the Militia to exercise the Men under their Command & to see that they provide themselves with Arms & Ammunition I have also sent more particular Instructions to the principal Militia Officers in the Frontier Counties as your Ldp will see by the inclosed Copy. Our Assembly have at length impowered me to augment the Troops in the Pay of this Province to 500 Men & I have given Commissions for that purpose but really I do not think it will be possible to compleat the two Additional Companies this Summer Men disposed to enlist are become so exceedingly scarce. It was not without great difficulty that I prevailed with the Assembly to come into this Measure & I am sorry to inform your Ldp that they have now done it with such a Reservation as prevents the Men's being disposed of exactly in the manner that your Ldp was pleased to propose. Upon my Return from Phila the Virginians being ordered to evacuate Fort Cumberland I sent Orders to Capt Dagworthy to march with a Detachment of the Troops in the pay of this Province to take possession of that place, but he had scarcely arrived there before the Assembly gave me to understand that they did by no means approve of the Orders I had given & that they would never agree to support a Garrison in that Fort. No Endeavours of mine were wanting to convince them of the Impropriety of such a Resolution at this time but I had the

Mortification to find that no Arguments which I could use Letter Bk. III
had any weight with them & that they were obstinately bent on having all the Troops in the Pay of this Province withdrawn & it was not till the last Day of the Session which was the 9th Inst that they would agree to issue Pay or Provisions for the Men that had been sent thither under Dagworthy's Command. Finding that all our Troops must be disbanded or some Concessions made I have assented to their Bill upon Condition that as many of the 500 Men as can be spared without leaving the Frontier Inhabitants quite exposed shall be under the Command of Colo Stanwix to be disposed of as he shall judge proper with this Reserve that no Captains nor whole Companies shall be posted as a fixed Garrison in Fort Cumberland. This I have already sent Colo Stanwix Advice of & expect in a Day or two to receive his Answer to my Letter. It gives me a good deal of Concern to find myself obliged by a Remonstrance which has been sent me by two of the Circuiting Judges of this province & was presented to them by the Grand Jury of one of our Counties agst the Conduct of Lieutn Sterling & Ensign Calder of His Majesty's 48th & 44th Regiments & the Recruiting parties under their Command to mention those Gentlemen to your Ldp. By the Advice of the Council before whom the Remonstrance & Affidavits concerning the Transactions of this Parties have been laid I send them all inclosed to your Ldp together with Copies of three Bills of Indictment that have been found agst several of the Soldiers one for attacking in a hostile manner the Crew of a Vessel that lay in one of our Rivers & the other for outrageous Assaults on sundry Persons & on the high Sheriff of the County in his own house. While I was at Philaa a Petition was presented to your Ldp by one Mr Wethered praying an Allowance for a House of his which had been accidentally burnt by some Soldiers who were quartered in this Province I take this opportunity to acquaint your Ldp that agreeable to your Desire I have prevailed with the Assembly of this Province to give him the sum of £300 which is supposed to be the Value of the House & what was destroyed—

[Holdernesse to Sharpe.] Original.

Duplicate Whitehall May 20. 1757

Sir

The inclosed Extract of a Letter from Vice Adml Townshend to Mr Clevland, together with the Affidavits thereunto annexed will inform you of the pyratical Behaviour of several Privateers fitted out in North America towards the Spaniards in the

West Indies particularly of the Peggy of New York, one Hadden Master, & of a Privateer from Halifax commanded by one Snooke.

It was with the greatest Indignation that his Majesty received this Account of Proceedings on the Part of his Subjects not only contrary to all Humanity & good Faith but to the general Instructions given to Privateers & in direct Breach of the additional one of the 5th of Octr last, with regard to Spanish Ships; & the King, being determined that the most rigorous Iustice shall be put in Execution against such notorious Acts of Violence has directed the Governors of New York, & Nova Scotia to commence Prosecutions against the Owners, Masters & Securities of the Two Privateers abovementioned; and it is his Majesty's Pleasure in Case either or Both of them shall put into any Port within your Government that you do cause them to be detained giving immediate Notice to the Governor of New York of the Arrival & Detention of the Peggy Hadden Master; & of that from Halifax commanded by Snooke to Govr Lawrence in order that they may send you such Directions thereupon, as they shall judge most expedient for the Execution of the Kings Commands signified to them upon this Occasion

Tho' the additional Instruction abovementioned of the 5th of Octr last, has been already transmitted to you from the Council Office, I send you herewith some printed Copies thereof & am to signify to you his Majesty's Pleasure, that you be particularly careful not only to deliver the same to all persons, who shall hereafter take out Commissions for Privateers but also that whenever any Privateers come to the Ports in your Government, You do make Enquiry whether they have already received the said Instruction; & in Case you have Reason to think they have not you will cause a Copy thereof to be delivered to the Commanders of such Privateers, & at the same Time acquaint them that the King is determined to require the most exact Obedience thereto; & that the severest Prosecutions will be carried on against those who shall in any manner act contrary to the same, & thereby endanger that Harmony which his Majesty is so desirous to preserve with the Court of Spain.

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Holdernesse

[D. Wolstenholme and J. Ridout to Sharpe.] Copy.

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq[r] Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Maryland.

Sir

Agreeable to the Instructions which We had the Honour to receive from your Excellency the 17[th] Instant, We proceeded the same Day towards Fort Frederick and reached that place on the 19[th] in the Afternoon, We were met about nine miles beyond Conegochiege by a party of the Cherokee Indians who escorted us to the Fort and when We came near the Gate drew up in a Rank and Saluted us. Wahachey their Chief then invited us to Smoak a Pipe with him and some of the Warriors that were in greatest esteem On our Accepting his Invitation he bad us Welcome and expressed great Satisfaction at our Arrival, he afterwards enquired how long We had been on the Road and what the Distance was between Fort Frederick and the place where the Governor resided. When we informed them that We had performed the Journey in three Days they seemed to be surprized that they had not received an answer to their message sooner and observed that many Days had elapsed since your Excellency must have received it. We told them that when they sent their message you happened to be far from home, and that you had been obliged after your return home to send to distant Parts of the Province for a Quantity of Goods to make them a present of, by reason that a proper assortment was not to be had in Annapolis nor in any one part of the Province; with this answer they seemed to be well satisfied and only asked whether the Goods were yet collected and brought up. We told them that they may be expected in a Day or two and that wenever they came We should immediately advise them thereof. The Chief afterwards asked some questions about the Treaty which he said he had heard the Governor of Pensilvania was then holding with the Shawanesse & Delawares at Lancaster, and expressed a good deal of Surprize at the Pensilvanians treating as Friends and making presents to a People with whom they were at open War, by whom they had been so cruely used, and against whom the English had been and were still Solliciting their (the Cherokees) assistance. Finding that what had been dropt about that Treaty had made an ill Impression on their Minds We intimated that the affair had been misrepresented to them, for that none but some of the six nations and of Certain Tribes of the Shawanese & Delawares who were in Amity with the English and who disapproved of the others' Conduct were come to the Treaty of which they had heard. The Chief soon after ordered some of their young Men to

bring down the two Indian Prisoners which they had taken and by way of Compliment obliged them to parade before us and to sing their Death Songs. The next Day We invited the Chief and the principal Warriors to Dine with us, and after Dinner the Interpreter Cap^{n} Pearis told them He understood that their Brother the Governor's present would be up the next Morning, and that he had made a Considerable addition to it as a reward for the Services they had done in destroying four and taking two of the Enemy Prisoners, but that it was expected that they should deliver up the Prisoners and Scalps before they received the additional present such being the Custom here and what was required by the Laws of the Province. To this the Chief replyed with some warmth that he thought it would Suffice to shew his Brother the Governor or those that he had sent to represent him, the Prisoners and the scalps of the Enemies that they had destroyed, that it was the Indians Custom to preserve as Trophies the Hair of the Enemies that they killed in Battle and to carry them home to their own People, and in short that if they were not to have the Goods that had been talked of unless they would purchase them with their Prisoners or Scalps they would return home naked as they came thence, and that they would think no more of going to War if they were not allowed to keep what they set the highest value on as it procured them most Honour among their own People. As the Chief (for many of the others did not) appeared to be much displeased with the proposal that had been made or the Intimation that had been given him by Cap^{n} Pearis We desired the Interpreter to drop the affair, but as We were not at liberty to give them a larger present than could be purchased with £100 unless they would deliver up the Scalps to be Destroyed agreeable to the Directions of the Act of Assembly and as we understood that so small a present as £100 would not be Acceptable, We desired M^{r} Pearis the Interpreter to talk to them severally and to endeavour by any arguments that he should think fit to urge to perswade them to give up some of the Scalps that we may be thereby enabled to make such an Addition to the present given by the assembly as might make it Acceptable. In the morning of the 21st Instant He assured us that he had used his utmost Endeavours to procure us either the Prisoners or some Scalps but that Wahachey the Chief continued obstinate and had declared that nothing should tempt him to part with the Prisoners, but that Yaughtanew the second in reputation and who was in fact much better affected than the other had promised him to send the Scalps as a present to your Excellency afterwards tho he could not deliver them up to be destroyed in such a manner as the Act Directs, lest he should

be charged by his own People with Selling them. Upon this assurance We sent to Conegochiege for two hundred pounds Worth of Goods more, and as soon as they were brought up We advised the Indians thereof and desired to know if they would choose to receive them in the afternoon and to hear your Excellency's answer to the Message which they had sent you by M^{r} Ross. Our proposal being accepted the Goods as well those that were purchased with the one hundred pounds granted by the Assembly as those purchased with the two hundred pounds (the price of four Scalps) were after Dinner laid on a Table in two Seperate parcels, and when all the Indians except a few who were left to guard the Prisoners were Assembled (Cap^{n} Beall the Commandant of the Fort, Cap^{n} Armstrong who was come thither from Pensilvania with a message from Governor Denny to the Cherokees, and several other Officers of the Maryland and Pensilvania Troops being also present) We addressed ourselves to Wahachey the Chief saying that We were come thither by your order and "that We were about to deliver your Excellency's answer to their message which answer Cap^{n} Pearis would interpret to them" & then We proceeded.

Brother Wahachey of Keeway & Bretheren of the Cherokee Nation. I have received the Message which you sent by M^{r} Ross to advise me of your being come to Fort Frederick, I rejoice at your arrival & bid you welcome by this String of white Wampum (gave a String) I have heard of your Fame & your good intentions towards us from your Brother of Virginia and have for a long time had a great desire to see you, but it happens that now you are come I am unable to meet you, this I am sorry for but I hope you will excuse me since I have sent M^{r} Wolstenholme and M^{r} Ridout to communicate my Sentiments to you. I have appointed them because I know that they have a particular regard for you, and because I am Confident they will deliver my words faithfully; They will in my name and on behalf of the People of Maryland make a league with you which I hope will last as long as the Sun & Moon shall endure, to Confirm it I present you this Belt of Wampum. gave a Belt. Bretheren When M^{r} Ross was with me I gave him orders to supply you with such Provisions as you should stand in need of as a farther mark of my Friendship towards you I have now sent you a present (pointing to that of one hundred pounds Value) was it in my power I would send you a larger but as it is not I hope you will not consider the value of the present so much as the inclination of him that sends it.

Bretheren now we have made a League of Friendship and are known to each other I will speak to you more freely on the purpose for which you are come. You say that your good

Brother the Governor of Virginia has signified to you that our Father King George desires you will joyn the English and declare War against the French and their Indians who without any just cause or provocation have fallen upon our People and Scattered their Bones over the Country; you also tell me that upon our Father's pleasure being made known to you you have taken up the Hatchet against our Enemies and that you will hold it fast till you have used it against the French and the Indians in their Alliance; I am well pleased that you have already taken such a resolution, I hope you will soon make our Enemies sensible of it and that you will prosecute the War Vigorously against them, to make your Hatchet Sharp and to fasten it in your Hands I present you with this String of black Wampum. gave a string

You were told you say when you came to Fort Frederick that you were no longer in Virginia but in another Province, this was true but I must observe to you that We and the Virginians are nevertheless one People, The Inhabitants of Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pensilvania, and of all the Provinces to the Northward are Bretheren, Subjects of the same great King, and they that are Friends to some of us must be Friends to all, you are then the Friends of all, Let us become one People and unite against the French and their Indians our Enemies, Let our Men go out to War with you, Look on them as your Bretheren, Teach them to fight after your manner, and then neither the French nor their Allies will be able to stand before you, For your Encouragement and as a reward for those that fight bravely I will give you a present as large as that which I have now sent you (pointing to the small parcell) for every two Enemies that you shall take Prisoners & deliver up to me or that you shall kill and bring me the Scalps of, or I will give you the value thereof in Money, Let this sink deep into the minds of your young men & let them remember my promise in the Day of Battle. I have ordered Cap^{n} Beall who Commands at Fort Frederick and the Officer that commands the men at Fort Cumberland to receive and at all times Treat you and those of your nation that shall join you as Bretheren and as my best Friends, I have also notified your Arrival to your Brother the Governor of Pensilvania; in this I hope I have done according to your desire and that the words which I have spoken are agreeable to you, to Confirm the truth of them and to Convince you that they flow from my Heart I give you this Belt. gave a Belt and the answer in Writeing.

After a short pause We addressed Ourselves to them again and spoke to the following purport.

"Bretheren you have heard your Brother the Governors

answer to your Message, you have also seen the present which he sent you as a mark of his Friendship and to welcome you to this Province, We are now to Congratulate you in his name on the Success which you have lately had agst his and your Enemies. He was exceedingly pleased with the news, and for the Service you have already done he has ordered us to give you these Goods; (pointing to the large parcell) Bretheren now you have found where the Enemy is to be met with We hope you will not suffer them to escape but on the Contrary that you will pursue and overtake them and destroy till none of them remain to inspire you with such a Resolution your Brother the Governor sends you this String. gave a String of black Wampum.

After a few Minutes Wahachey rose up and said he had heard good words & then steping up on one of the Seats that were round the Table he harangued his People a Considerable time, repeating (as we were told by the Interpreter) the substance of what We had said and Concluding with an Exhortation to the young Men to look on the English and on the People of this Province in particular as their Friends and Bretheren to fight bravely for them against the Enemies that had attacked them, and to entitle themselves to the present that had been promised as a reward for their Valour. They then proceeded to divide the Goods and We retired having first desired the Commandant of the Fort to order Sentries to the Door to prevent the Intrusion of any White People.

An Account being brought to the Fort in the Evening that several Moccoson Tracks had been discovered a few Miles off on the South side of Potomack River and the Indians being informed thereof they sent to us early in the Morning of the 22^{d} Instant saying they were very impatient to pursue the Indians that had as it was Supposed made the abovementioned Tracks and that they hoped We would meet them as soon as possible and hear the reply that they intended to make to their Brother the Governor. We immediately complied with their request and as soon as We were seated the Chief expressed himself in the following Words. "I am now going to reply to the Governor of Maryland but as I do not understand making Beads I shall send him nothing but Paper." Brother while I was coming from home my thoughts were very bad. I was enraged against the Enemy who have been Murthering my Bretheren but now I have been out and killed some of them I am better Satisfied in my mind. My Brother the Governor of this Province has sent us this Belt, (holding in his Hand the Belt that was first given him the Day before) to welcome us hither and to open a Path from my Country, This shall be done; at present it is only a small Track but I will make it a

large Path, all my young Men have taken hold of this Belt, they are determined to make the Path Broad, and will take care that there be no blood shed upon it; I will keep this Belt to remind our young Men to Freshen the Track and I will immediately send off to my Nation that they may see these Belts (holding up all the Belts and Strings that had been given him) and know how kindly We have been received and treated in this Province, I will also send them a speech and invite them hither to go out to War with us and to receive presents as we have done. These are not only my own Sentiments and my own Resolutions but all the young Warriors that are with me agree with me and are come to the same Determination. This String (holding up the black String that was first given) my Brother the Governor sent to Sharpen my Hatchet he may Depend on our doing so therewith, and that We will always have it Stained with the Blood of the Enemy; the very sight of this String makes me angry with them, they have often sent to me calling me their Father but I looked on them with disdain & as Enemies. My talk with the Governor of Maryland shall be always Straight, I shall never deal double with him and I hope his Language to us will be always Straight and true. (Then holding up the Black String that was last given he said) I received this yesterday with a speech to invite me to War, which I receive as if it came from our Father King George, the Governor our Brother having sent you to deliver it, and you may be assured that so long as King George will furnish us with Cloathes, I will continue to Destroy his and our Enemies. I have been a long here to War & having killed a few of the Enemy have received a small present, but when I come this way again with my People I will kill more of the Enemy and hope to receive a larger Present. I hope our Father King George will take care to furnish us with Cloaths and I desire he might be informed of what I have already done and of what I intend to do. (The young Warrior called Yaughtanew then put into his Hand the Scalps which he had promised us & holding them up Wahachey proceeded) "When I came to Winchester I heard that the Enemy was murthering People in this Province, the news made my Heart ake and I immediately pursued and came up with them, I have killed some of them and to shew the Governor my Brother that I have destroyed some of his & my Enemies I send him this Hair for which I expect my Brother will thank me. gave the Scalps. He then signed the answer as it was taken down & the Interpreter certified it to be a true Interpretation as your Excellency will see by the Original herewith presented. after he had done speaking we thanked him in a few words for the reply he had made and the Hair which he had given and con-

cluded with telling them that you would look on the Latter as a Testimony of their Bravery and memorial of their Friendship. As soon as We had finished, Cap^{n} Armstrong and the other Gentlemen who were sent by Governor Denny to invite the Cherokees to Pensilvania delivered their Message, and Yaughtanew the second Warrior gave them a Short Answer, the Indians soon after took their leave appearing well Satisfied and went over to Virginia carrying their two Prisoners with them. We also left the Fort the same Day, and returned towards Annapolis to Inform your Excellency of our proceedings, and to assure you

That We are
Your Excellencys Most Humble
and Most Obedient Serv^{ts}
Dan^{l} Wolstenholme
I. Ridout

the 25th of May 1757

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